

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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"Is It Well With Thee?"

By the late J. Wilbur Chapman, D.D.

"Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy husband? Is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well."—II Kings 4:26.

Fifty-three miles north of Jerusalem, eight miles from Tabor and a few miles from Jezreel, once stood the ancient village of Shunem. It was beautifully situated. It is said that "in that olden time every house had its little park about it and that every park had its fountain, the waters of which climbed the ladders of light." But it is not of the beautiful situation of Shunem that I am to speak.

We know something about one of the families of the city. We know the number of the household—the father, mother and the little boy, who was as truly a gift of God and a miracle as was Isaac. We know something about the home life of the little company. We say in these days, if we know what company a man keeps, we may study the man through his company. And if you will tell me the names of your chosen friends written upon your guestbook in your home, I can tell you very accurately the story of your home life. I can tell you very truly, no matter whether I have been in your home or not.

One of the very best things I know about the home in Shunem is this, that it was the place where Elisha used to tarry. Over and over again he passed through Shunem, and the Shunamite wo-

man saw him. It is said in the story that she was a great woman. John McNeil has said that he thinks that means that she must have been a great discerner of character. She knew by the way the man walked that he was God's man. She said to her husband, "We will invite him into our home."

The home was a small one, so they built for him the prophet's chamber. They gave him a special invitation to tarry with them, and when Elisha was weary he rested there, and when he was hungry he found refreshment in the home of Shunem.

We know something more about the household. One day in the midst of the harvesting season the little boy of the family turned his face away from his mother and

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There is more good Reading inside

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Dealing With The Individual

By Dr. Prince E. Burroughs

"One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus . . ."—John 1:40-42.

In all efforts to win men to Christ, it is personality and the personal touch that count for most. A wise, tactful personal appeal, backed by holy living, will almost certainly prevail.

I. Why Deal with the Individual?

The reasons are many and they are very weighty.

This was the method of Jesus. In the first chapter of John's gospel, we have some vivid pictures showing how the new gospel era was ushered in, and illustrating for all time the effective method of winning the lost.

John the Baptist led two of his disciples to follow Jesus—Andrew and probably John.

Andrew found his brother Simon and brought him to Jesus.

Jesus found Philip and said unto him, "Follow me."

Philip found Nathanael and said, "Come and see."

The issues at stake demand it. Dr. Cortland Myers tells of a woman dressed in silks and satins walking along a street in Paris, when, to her sorrow, she dropped from her finger into the filth and slime of the gutter a valuable jewel. She stopped instantly. Under her arm she bore an elegant sunshade with a crooked handle. Using the crook, she searched the gutter for her jewel. It was not to be found that way. Then, to the astonishment of the crowd, she stripped her glove from her dainty white hand, rolled up above her elbow her sleeve of costly lace, and, with delicate pink fingers bared, she searched the gutter

and found her jewel. Is not this our task, with eager zeal to search even the very gutters for the gems of human life?

This method is most effectual. The author has occasionally, in conducting revival services, raised the question before audiences as to how many were won to Christ by sermons or general appeals, and

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Dr. Prince E. Burroughs

"What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

The Plan of Salvation Made Plain to Sinners
From the Word of God

By Evangelist John R. Rice

The last printing of "What Must I Do To Be Saved" in tract form showed that over 4,850,000 copies have been printed in English up to January 1, 1951, with over 4,396 recorded decisions for Christ. The Japanese addition has been duplicated 729,000 times with over 2,500 reported conversions.

What must I do to be saved? Here in the simplest, shortest form is put the question to which every man must learn the answer, or spend eternity lost, away from God, suffering the torments of the damned! Thank God, this question is asked and answered in the Word of God, so simply that every soul can understand it. There are other questions in God's Word which affect the soul's welfare, and many places in the Bible is the plan of salvation made plain, but only one place is this question given word for word, and there, too, we find the answer. Paul and Silas were in jail in the city of Philippi and at midnight they sang and prayed until God broke down all the doors and broke the stocks which held their feet, with a mighty earthquake. The poor jailer, frightened and convicted of his sins, came to these two preachers and asked this question. Read it in Acts 16:29-31.

"Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas. And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house."

"What must I do to be saved?" "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved!" There is God's plan of salvation, the only plan He has for every man, woman and child who was ever born into the whole world.

What Must I Do?

Sinner, there is something you must do if you would be saved. There was hope for this jailer because he saw himself a lost sinner and came trembling to inquire, "What must I do?" Reader, you are a sinner. The Word of God from beginning to end emphasizes that fact. In Isaiah 53:6 we learn:

"ALL we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned EVERY ONE to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us ALL."

We have all gone astray! The Lord is not content for sinners to be left believing themselves good.

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

GOD IS GIVING A GRACIOUS REVIVAL in St. John, New Brunswick, in services sponsored by the Main Street Baptist Church and Victoria Street Baptist Church. Thursday night God gave us a wonderful, sweeping revival victory. Many men took holy vows to lead their families for God. Between twenty-five and forty people came to claim Christ as Saviour. (I do not have the record cards at hand.) A good many of these were men coming in repentance and faith. This morning (Saturday) in a large children's meeting forty-two young people came to Christ as Saviour, being carefully dealt with and instructed. Most of them were eleven, twelve and older. We have crowded out the Victoria Street Baptist Church and tonight go to the Main Street Baptist Church, the largest church auditorium, seating perhaps nine hundred.

WE ARE HAVING SOME WONDERFUL letters from people saved through Sword of the Lord literature. Thank God that as we sow beside all waters, God gives the increase. If you will help us to

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In Romans the third chapter, how positive, how certain is the Word of God that every man, woman, and child is a sinner!

"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are ALL under sin; As it is written, There is NONE righteous, NO, NOT ONE: There is NONE that understandeth, there is NONE that seeketh after God. They are ALL gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is NONE that doeth good, NO, NOT ONE!"—Rom. 3:9-12.

In verses 22 and 23 it is stated again that "there is no difference: for all have sinned, and come short

of the glory of God." That is the reason that Jesus said to Nicodemus in the third chapter of John, "Marvel not that I said unto thee, YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN." And a little later in the same chapter, verse 18, said that the man who has not believed in Jesus is already condemned.

Certainly these Scriptures must make it clear to every man who believes the Word of God that he is a sinner, and until he has believed in Christ and has been saved, he is a lost sinner and needs saving. The heart is wrong, and only God can make that right. Then if you want to be saved, you must admit in your own heart, "I am a sinner. I am lost and need to be saved." No one ever was

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Evangelist John R. Rice

Ten-Week Revival On Nation-Wide!

Sword of the Lord to Make Special Effort to
Win Souls, Teach Soul Winning for
Ten Special Weeks. Here is How
We Will Help You

By the Editor

The Sword of the Lord is a revival paper, an evangelistic paper. By that we mean the revival fires burn all the time in the hearts of the preachers whose sermons we publish in The Sword of the Lord. There is an evangelistic slant that appears in these pages. Every week we have at least one sermon addressed to the unsaved. Repeatedly we urge Christians to win souls and show them how. Continually we report revivals all over America as led by principal evangelists.

But for ten weeks we want to concentrate the revival emphasis. We are having a "SWORD OF THE LORD REVIVAL." We hope you will cooperate with the following features:

1. We are publishing special articles on soul winning. Won't you read them and pray for God to help you to become an active and fruitful soul winner during this time, if you are not already a soul winner?

2. Each week during this special campaign there will be a very earnest message addressed to the unsaved, one which has been widely used in getting people to trust Christ as Saviour. Last week we published the famous tract, God's Simple Plan of Salvation, by Rev. Ford Porter of Indianapolis. Nearly twenty-five million copies of this tract have been published in twenty-five languages. This week we are publishing my own booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Nearly five million copies have been printed in English, many hundreds of thousands of copies have been printed in Japanese, Spanish, Armenian, and some other languages, altogether. Next week we will have another such mes-

sage making very sharp and clear the plan of salvation.

Besides that, there will be other sermons for sinners like that by Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman in this issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, which is for both saints and sinners. Will you please see that unsaved people near you have a chance to read the sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD? I assure you that they are prepared with much prayer and that your cooperation will help to guarantee that many hundreds will be saved during this special revival effort through THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Don't let the message die! Please get some unsaved person to read the messages in this paper!

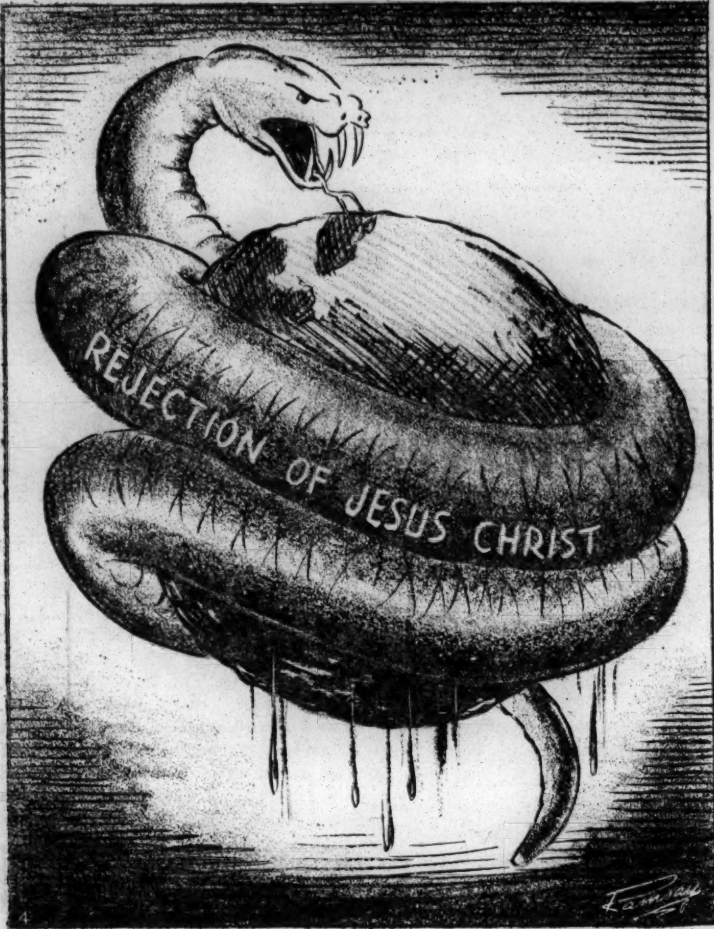
3. We would like you to send us your prayer requests, but note very carefully the condition. We will have regular prayer meetings in the Sword of the Lord office, when as many of our fifty workers as can get together will wait on God and will call the names of lost sinners whom we hope to hear will be saved during these weeks. However, we do not want you to send

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The Gospel at a Glance

By Charles L. Ramsay

DEATH SQUEEZE



This is another in a series of original Christian cartoons drawn by Charles L. Ramsay which have been appearing weekly in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. The first edition of 101 Christian Cartoons has been completely exhausted. A second edition is in preparation and will be announced when ready.

Sword Revival Campaign Foretaste

Amputee Veteran Gloriously Converted; Dr. and Wife Won Through "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"; German Youth Yields for Full-time Service; Entire Family Wiped Out in Nebraska; Borrowed Book Wins Couple, and other reports

By Charles T. Lampman, Managing Editor

Although the gigantic "Revival by Mail" Campaign announced by Dr. Rice in last week's *Sword* is only beginning, there are already evidences that God will bless. We're looking for much blessing from His hand.

Indicative of what we expect God to do is this letter from Harold Scott Gravatt who lives in Corsicana, Texas. He wrote the following letter, which came to my desk this week, on February 14, 1951:

Amputee Veteran Converted

"Gladly has the enclosed statement been signed, and gladly, oh, so eagerly are these poor words written.

"Though a host of mocking thoughts keep screaming, 'It's a lie; you are writing a lie,' I know God saves me now. Through faith, and because it is written in God's Holy Word, I know that Jesus died for even me. Through faith I believe on Him and trust in Him... that He will keep me saved. I do, with all my heart, with all its sorrow, love and yearning, confess Him as my Saviour.

"I am 53 years of age; have lived, what seems to have been, an eternity in sin. I am a World War I Vet. Both my legs have been amputated, and all my fingers, excepting the thumb and pointer finger of the right hand. I have tasted physical pain but it was sweet as compared to the bitter cup of anguished remorse from which I drank so deeply through all my sin-blighted years. There are no depths of depravity or degradation to which, at one time or another, I have not sunken...

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

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EVANGELIST BILL RICE
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MANAGING EDITOR

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words. It is a story yet to find its ending....

"Pray for me that my faith and trust in Him shall grow ever stronger, and that, through my puny endeavors, other lives and souls may find their way to God. With all my heart's sincerity."

HAROLD SCOTT GRAVATT

Dr. and Wife Accept Lord

Here's another example of how God will use Dr. Rice's sermon tract if it is backed up with earnest, believing prayer.

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Have passed your little booklet 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' to folks from Indiana to California and back again.

"I would like to tell you of just one case. I was in Sheridan, Indiana, to see a young doctor and in the course of our conversation the Lord made an opening; and I just mentioned the name of Jesus (Isn't it a beautiful name!) and the most helpless look came on his face. He said he belonged to a church, but he wanted me to stop at his home after office hours the next week, so his wife might hear. I left one of the little books, and came back the next week and brought a fellow with me who was saved through no effort of mine, while reading 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' The doctor and his wife were also wonderfully saved. Praise His name!"

HARLEY MELTON, pastor
Flora Baptist Church
Flora, Ind.

German Youth Yields

Here's a letter from the U.S. Zone of Germany. It shows the universal appeal of Dr. Rice's books and pamphlets and encourages us to pray for those who read *Sword* literature in more than 80 foreign countries.

"Dear Sir: (Addressed to Dr. Rice)

"Today I will thank you for the most encouraging writings you published, and which helped me to find Christ as my Saviour. Never before have I experienced such a great change within myself than now, that I fully believe in Him, our Master. Your sermons of which I only read a few including *Religious but Lost* and *Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?*, were so inspiring that I gladly do call them the turning point of my life. Last Sunday I surrendered myself to the ministry, and hereby wish to express my deepest gratitude to you.

"Thank you again, sir, and may God's richest blessing be with you and your work."

BODO J. WEBER, JR.
Bad Tolz, Germany

Entire Family Wiped Out

The following letter should be a warning to every *Sword* reader. If we want to win souls, we must win them today. Today only is ours, tomorrow may never come for the lost ones we intend to talk to about salvation.

"It is with a sense of loss and yet rejoicing in what God can do that I write this letter.

"A few weeks ago, along with my renewal to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, I sent money for a year's subscription to a neighbor family.

"This family consisted of a lovely Christian wife, a fine thirteen-year old son (also a Christian of two years), and a sixty-two year old father, for whom a group of us had been praying daily. This father was a very ungodly, unlovely person, whose only virtue, from a worldly point of view, was his love for his son. He prided in the fact he did not try to hinder that son in his 'religion' as he called it, but gave him to understand Dad wanted none of it for himself. We felt your paper might touch his heart for God by giving him the gospel he would not come to hear nor accept from the lips of another person.

"Last Tuesday evening he came home from work and sat down to rest as his wife and son began to prepare supper. A gasoline stove exploded, killing the two instantly. Neighbors heard his cries for help and found him in the yard covered with flames, and the house flaming. The two bodies were recovered by firemen and the father was rushed to the hospital, still conscious.

"There he called for our pastor and later that night admitted his sinfulness and confessed Christ as his personal Saviour. God permitted him to live until Saturday

when at 8 A.M. he, too, passed out into eternity.

"How little we humans know the way our God will take in answering our prayers! Psalm 46:10: 'Be still and know that I am God... I will be exalted...' He is speaking to hearts through this tragedy, and who knows what the final result may be? I feel it has been a reminder to our little prayer group that has met since the last of October daily at the parsonage—we must avail ourselves of every opportunity to witness to our unsaved neighbors and friends. Some said: 'He never will become a Christian,' but again our wonderful Lord has stopped the mouths of scoffers by proving that with God nothing is impossible.

"What a privilege to fellowship with a God like that!"

"Since the Chester Funkhouser family on West Maple Street, Lexington, Nebraska, is gone, you can choose another person to send THE SWORD to."

MRS. WM. MELVIN
Lexington, Nebr.

Borrowed Book Won Couple

The following letter tells how God won a husband and wife and drew them to Himself through a copy of one of Dr. Rice's books borrowed from a friend.

"I have finished reading your book, *Revival Appeals*. As I had borrowed the book, I could not use your form about 'My Decision.'

"However, my wife and I have confessed our guilty sins, being sinners. We throw away all our hopes that self-righteousness, or church membership, or religious ceremonies can save us—but we trust Jesus Christ only and depend on Him to save us, forgive our sins, and change our hearts, to give us everlasting life. We have accepted Him as our Saviour with all our heart.

"We particularly liked 'A Good Man Lost and a Bad Man Saved,' 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' and 'Missing God's Last Train for Heaven.'

"I am a young farmer of 29 years, settled on this farm by Veterans' Land Act after the last war. My talents are limited, but I want to serve the Lord the best way possible and turn my heart away from all things that displease God.

"We have two small boys growing up and I do so want to teach them the way to live to please our Lord."

JOE S. REICHERT
Glenside, Sask., Can.

What a field of service this opens up to those Christians who desire to win their friends and neighbors for Christ. If they can't do anything else they can at least lend good, gospel-preaching books and pamphlets, and pray that God will use them. Will you not, dear reader, determine now that you will at least do this small service for Christ during the current *SWORD OF THE LORD* Revival Campaign?

The Sword Wins Souls, Too

As this special effort progresses we urge our readers not to forget

that THE SWORD itself is a great soul-winning agent. Last year 72 persons wrote us saying that they were led to Christ through the messages they read in THE SWORD.

Here are portions of two letters from people who found Christ through THE SWORD in recent weeks:

"One of my neighbors, Mr. Carl Danielson, gave me a subscription to your wonderful paper, THE SWORD OF THE LORD, for a Christmas present. I have enjoyed its reading very much, and I consider Mr. Danielson as one of my best friends. I am going to thank him over and over for his courtesy.

"I wish to thank you for publishing the sermon by the late William Edward Biederwolf and to thank Mr. Biederwolf for writing his sermon. I have been a very bad sinner, and I wish to repent for my sins. I am willing to accept Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour."

ALBERT C. RYNNING
Minneapolis, Minn.

"We are celebrating our first Christmas (my husband and I) as Christians and know all the others that have passed have all been wasted; but are so happy we at last know the Lord Jesus, that we have put all our faith in Him and are praying the Lord will see fit to help my husband. My sister first sent me THE SWORD when I was a sinner, and I read it on the quiet, I am ashamed to say, but have found since that many of the things I hear at church and among Christians I have read before in your paper. So the Holy Spirit surely must work even on sinners who pick it up and think they will merely read it and forget it, a thing I am most thankful for. If my letter seems long it's because I am happy that I have the wonderful Jesus in my heart and ask Him to bless you all in your great work, and may you continue to have financial aid as you enlarge."

MRS. ARTHUR ENGLISH
San Pedro, Calif.

You Are Invited to Help

Each reader of THE SWORD is urgently invited to help us during the great *SWORD OF THE LORD* Revival Campaign. There are at least four things each reader can do.

1. Pray for God's blessing on all who take part in (or are reached by) the campaign.
2. Have your unsaved friends and loved ones read the gospel sermons being printed in THE SWORD each week. Show them the decision form and urge them to use it.
3. Send for free copies of "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" for use among your unsaved friends (see coupon elsewhere in this issue).
4. Send us your requests and we'll join you in praying for your unsaved friends (see handy request form elsewhere in this issue).

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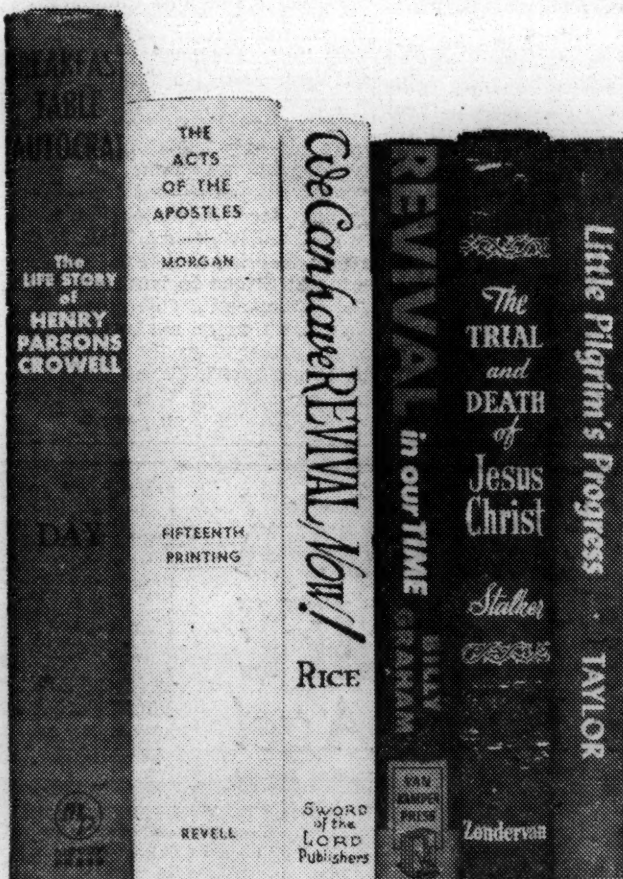
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What Some Charter Members say About Their Membership

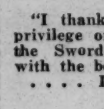
"I am glad the Sword Book Club is going to celebrate its birthday, the sixth. The Club has done me so much good, because all the books you have sent me have been a blessing to me. I am grateful to the men who give of their time to review them and recommend them. Without this help it would be impossible for me to find them so easily as I do the Club's way."

C. O. Baptista
Wheaton, Ill.



"I am a Baptist minister . . . having little time for real Bible study. I have found the books recommended by Sword Book Club judges to be just what I needed, true to the Bible, sound in the faith, written by deep spiritual men, with lots of usable material for my sermons."

Inman Stewart
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"I thank the Lord that I've had the privilege of being a charter member of the Sword Book Club, furnishing me with the best reading material anywhere . . . I've never been the same since

I read 'Goforth of China'."

Mrs. Paul Hunt
Dale, Ill.



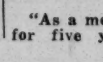
"Through reading your books month after month, from prophecy to history, from missionary to homiletics, culminating in that superb selection for last month, 'The Life and Times of Martin Luther,' I have been really enabled to grasp Bible truths, and, may I also say, understand the Bible a little better."

Joseph W. McDowell
Schenectady, N. Y.



"When I first joined the Sword Book Club I knew very little about how to rightly divide the Word of God. Although I had been a Sunday school teacher for several years and an active worker in the church, how I do thank God for the great help the Club has been to me in teaching the Word of God."

Hoke Parton
Chattanooga, Tenn.



"As a member of the Sword Book Club for five years I have not missed a

monthly selection during this period. I am always looking forward to what is the next book selection. There are so many books written having an attractive name, but on investigation, without sound doctrine. Your judges are investigating this for me now, giving me the dependable assurance necessary."

Howard J. Sachs
Allentown, Pa.

"For several years I have been a member of the Sword Book Club, almost from the beginning of the Club it seems. The books which I have received during that time have greatly enriched my life. It has been a great help to read the book reviews from the Club's very capable staff."

Rev. A. W. Duncan
Centertown, Mo.



"We have purchased most of the books that you have recommended to us. We especially like to get books that others will want to read, as we have a lending library. We appreciate the reviews of the best books, both fiction and non-fiction, so we can decide which we can make the best use of."

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WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS
by Charles T. Lampman

1268 SAVED IN JAMAICA REVIVAL

100,000 Attend E. J. Daniels Meetings in Kingston

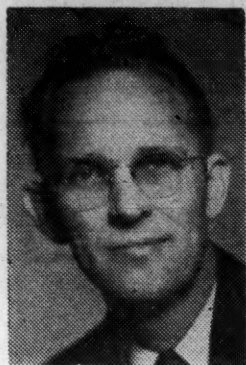
We've just been reading the official report of the missionary revival conducted in the capitol of Jamaica by Dr. E. J. Daniels and party January 7-21. It is a report to gladden the heart of any Christian.

During the campaign 1,268 persons dealt with by personal workers professed a saving faith. Hundreds of others returned to God from their backslidden condition. On the closing night 20,000 people attended and 252 answered the invitation call.

Speaking of the campaign Dr. Daniels, a true friend of THE SWORD OF THE LORD, said:

"The physical equipment was so poor that no intelligent person would ever attempt to conduct a revival with such equipment in America. The racecourse where the meetings were conducted had one small 'grandstand' that was supposed to accommodate not over 1,000 people. Some 1,500 could pack into it. All others attending had to stand—and they did—thousands of them nightly. It was an almost unbelievable sight to see thousands upon thousands of people standing for from one and one-half hours to three hours for a religious service."

Among outstanding conversions reported were the following: Two policemen who came to keep order,



E. J. Daniels

but who found Christ and a reporter, "a brilliant feature writer," who covered the meetings and was led to surrender to Christ.

Some observers called Dr. Daniels' meetings "the greatest religious demonstration the island has seen in 90 years."

"Not since 1860 has there been a really all-island revival," said Rev. Joseph Jespersen, president of the Jamaica Bible School, Mandeville. "I pray this may be the start of one. It is long overdue and revival alone can solve the many political and social problems of our country."

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that cannot save you. Baptism does not save, does not keep anybody saved, it is only an act of duty for those who have already found Christ as their Saviour. A mortal life or lodge membership or good citizenship, these must all fail to bring salvation, for it is "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us" (Titus 3:5). Don't depend, then, on what you do, but on what Jesus did and promises to do for you.

What About Repentance?

Does not the Bible say that we must repent? Yes, the Bible plainly says that "God . . . commandeth all men every where to repent" (Acts 17:30), and again, "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3,5). This was the preaching of John the Baptist, of Jesus, of Peter and of Paul, that men should repent. And certainly repentance is God's plan of salvation. The trouble here, however, is that men misunderstand what repentance means, and there has grown up an idea that repentance means a period of weeping and mourning over sin, or sorrow for sins. This idea comes from the Douay Version of the Bible which instead of "repent" says "do penance." So the place of inquiry, where people should be taught the plan of salvation from the Bible, in revival meetings, became "the mourner's bench" and thousands of people have been taught that God would not hear their prayer nor forgive their sins until they went through a process of sorrow and mourning over their sins!

Do not misunderstand me. God is anxious for you to have a penitent, broken heart over your sins. You have gone away from God. You have trampled under foot the blood of Jesus Christ, wasted years of your life which you can never live over again. You have served your father the devil. There is plenty for you to weep over, and I am not surprised if you feel deep shame and sorrow in your heart that you have so mistreated the God who made you and the Saviour who died for you. I am not surprised if you cannot keep back the tears! But what I want you to know is that tears or no tears, however much sorrow you may have in your heart, or not have, those things do not save you.

You ought to be sorry for your sins and ashamed of them. "Godly sorrow worketh repentance" (II Corinthians 7:10)—the right kind of sorrow leads to immediate repentance, but mourning is not itself repentance.

"Could my tears forever flow, Could my zeal no respite know, These for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone."

To repent literally means to have a change of mind or spirit toward God and toward sin. It means to turn from your sins, earnestly, with all your heart, and trust in Jesus Christ to save you.

Share YOUR Sword

"Without Shedding of Blood Is No Remission"—Hebrews 9:22

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."—Rom. 5:6.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."—Isa. 53:6.

Peter tells us that all of us are bought by the blood of Christ:

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."—I Peter 1:18-19.

Every lamb, bullock, heifer, goat, turtle dove and pigeon offered in the Old Testament times on the altar pictured this, that man, a guilty sinner, must have some innocent one to shed his blood to pay for man's sins. Jesus died for our sins, and, thank God, salvation is bought for every man in the world, if he will have it, as the free gift of God.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the GIFT of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."—Rom. 6:23.

Dear sinner, remember, that church membership will not save you. If you have been baptized

You can see, then, how the man who believes in Christ repents and the man who repents believes in Christ. The jailer repented when he turned from sin to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Instant Salvation

The jailer did not go through a period of mourning. He was told to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; he did just that and was saved, and his whole family was saved the same way, immediately, the same hour of the night. Everywhere you look through the New Testament you find that people were saved all at once without any process, without any period of mourning. Zacchaeus, up a tree, trusted Jesus and made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully (Luke 19:6-9). Jesus said, "This day is salvation come to this house." When Peter told Cornelius and his assembled household that they could be saved by believing, immediately "while Peter yet spake these words," the Scripture says, the Holy Spirit came on them and they were happily saved (Acts 10:44-48). The thief on the cross, wicked sinner that he was, who a few minutes before had been railing at Jesus, was saved immediately when he inquired of Jesus (Luke 23:42-43). In the first chapter of John verses 35 to 49, we see where Andrew, Simon Peter, Philip and Nathanael were all converted, one by one, immediately by faith in Christ. There is no record of any person in Bible times who was ever told to wait, or mourn, or weep over his sins before trusting Jesus and being saved! One who believes in Christ has repented. Repentance and faith are the same thing put in different words, and neither requires a long period of time, nor a process of mourning and sorrow.

Salvation is instantaneous. All that keeps you today from being saved is the wickedness of your heart that holds on to sin and will not run to Jesus to trust in Him for salvation. I beg you, turn in shame and sorrow from your sins this minute, and trust in Christ and be saved!

Can One Be Saved Without Prayer?

In the Bible there are many cases of sinners who prayed like the thief on the cross or the publican in the temple. In fact, Romans 10:13 says:

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Many people believe that a sinner cannot be saved without a period of prayer, without consciously calling on God. However, the Bible does not say that a sinner must pray in order to be saved. In fact, immediately following the verse in Romans 10:13 is an explanation which shows that calling on God is an evidence of faith in the heart and that it is really faith which settles the matter. Read it again.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?"—Rom. 10:13-14.

The Lord encourages the sinner to pray, and the Lord hears and answers the sinner's prayer, if that sinner trusts in Jesus Christ for salvation when he prays. He heard the prayer of the thief on the cross, of the publican in the temple, of blind Bartimaeus. But the Scripture says, "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?" Certainly every one who is to be saved must believe. Prayer is evidence of faith. No matter how long one prays, if he does not trust in Christ, he can never be saved. If he trusts in Christ without conscious prayer, then he is saved already. There is just one plan of salvation and just one step a sinner must take to secure it. That step is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ!

Some way we preachers have left the impression on this poor world of sinners that God is hard-hearted and that it takes many tears and loud cries and long periods of sorrow before He will hear and save the sinner. We have left the impression that God does not care whether sinners are saved or not, and that sinners must some way touch the heart of God and get Him ready to forgive. What a slander on a good and holy God who "so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Man's sins are already paid for, God's wrath is already turned away from any sinner who wants to be saved. Both the Father and the Son are a million times more anxious to save every sinner than the sinner can be to get saved! Thank God, I do not have to beg God to forgive (Continued on page 5)

"What Must I do to be Saved?"

(Continued from page 1)

saved without coming for salvation as a sinner.

Christ Died to Save Sinners, Not Good Men

Oh, I beg you, see it today! You are a poor, lost sinner, a Hell-bound sinner! Your heart is black. You have hardened your heart, you have resisted the call of God, you have rejected Christ. However good you are in man's sight, you are a terrible sinner, and unless you turn to Christ you must spend eternity in Hell. A SINNER! That is what you are. Admit it in your own heart, confess it to God. You are a sinner and you need saving worse than you need anything else in the world.

If you have settled in your heart that matter, then you are ready to learn God's answer to your question, "What must I do to be saved?"

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ

Here is God's simple way to be saved. You are a sinner, your heart is wrong, you cannot save yourself, you are already condemned. The thing you are to do then, to be saved, is to simply trust the Lord Jesus with that matter. When you do trust Him, then you have God's promise "thou shalt be saved."

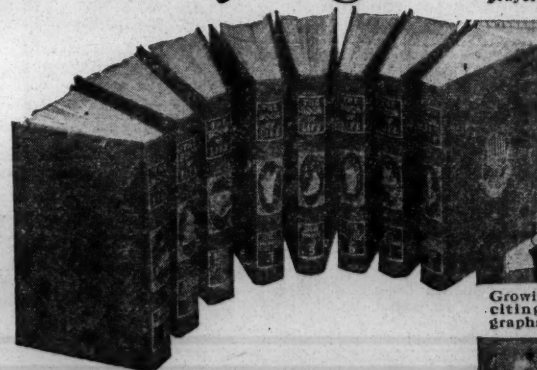
I do not mean that you are simply to believe that there is a God or that there is a Saviour. Devils believe that and tremble (James 2:19). You can believe that a certain physician is a good doctor without calling him to be your doctor when you are sick. You can believe that a certain man is a good lawyer without taking him as your lawyer to defend your case. You are not just to believe the truth about Jesus, you are to believe on Him, that is, depend upon Him, risk Him, trust Him; and when you do, you are saved.

Not Saved by Good Works

Of course, you do not deserve salvation. There is nothing you can do that will make you worthy of it. You cannot be saved by keeping the ten commandments, for the Scripture clearly shows that you have not kept them. Romans 3:20 says:

"Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin."

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"What Must I do to be Saved?"

(Continued from page 4)

my sins. He will do it the minute I am willing to trust it with Him.

How to Get the Change of Heart

This simple way of being saved by faith seems so easy, and it is. Some sinner may say, "But I thought one must have a change of heart." So you must, dear sinner, but that is God's part. Jesus was talking to Nicodemus when He said, "Ye must be born again," and in the same chapter He tells Nicodemus how to get the new birth.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

The change in your heart, sinner, is God's part and you may be sure He will attend to that. Your part is to simply believe in Him. Whatever else is necessary in your eternal salvation, the Lord attends to when you trust in Him, or believe in Him.

How Should I Feel?

Some people have an idea that the change of heart is a matter of feeling. Some do not want to claim Christ as Saviour until they have the mysterious feeling that they want. Do not let the devil deceive you here. I believe in heartfelt religion, and thank God for the joy which He gives to me day by day. But the Bible nowhere tells how one must feel before he is saved, nor does it anywhere say how you will feel after you are saved. In fact, people do not feel the same. Feeling varies with the person saved. Some cry when they are saved, some laugh, and a few shout aloud the praises of God. One is no more saved than the other. What you want, dear sinner, is salvation, and you should be satisfied to feel any way that will please the Lord, just so He forgives your sins.

Be sure you notice another fact, too, and that is that you cannot feel right until you get right. Rejoicing does not come before you trust the Lord. One does not feel the result of medicine before he takes it. The Children of Israel, in the wilderness, bitten by fiery serpents and at the point of death, were not healed and did not feel healed until they looked to the brass serpent on the pole (Numbers 21:6-9). People are not saved by feeling, they are saved by trusting in Christ. The prodigal son,

away from home in the hogpen, decided to arise and go to his father, but he did not feel good. He was without shoes, clothed in rags, without the ring of sonship, without any evidence of his father's forgiveness, perishing with hunger! Yet he arose and came to his father, not by feeling, but by faith in his father. Thank God, his father received him, like God receives every sinner who will come. And when the prodigal boy has sat down at his Father's table, with shoes of the gospel of peace, clothed in the garments of the righteousness of Christ, with the ring of sonship on his finger, eating the fattened calf at the right hand of the Father, happy in His love, then he has plenty of feeling. Feeling comes after salvation. Leave the feeling with the Lord and come to the Saviour by faith today.

After you are saved, you will get peace and joy out of following the Lord in baptism, reading His Word, winning souls and otherwise pleasing Him. You need to go to the Lord again and again day by day for the joy of a Christian life. But thank God that salvation is settled once and for all when you simply depend upon Christ as your Saviour.

What About Public Confession

Every person who is saved ought to publicly confess Christ. Matthew 10:32 and Romans 10:9 plainly teach that God will claim as His child any of us who will claim Christ as our Saviour, but we simply confess with the mouth what we have already trusted in our hearts. Romans 10:10 concerning that very matter says:

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

To claim Christ as your Saviour simply proves that you trust Him in the heart. Likewise with all other promises in the Bible about how to be saved. "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out," says 6:37 and salvation is promised in John 1:12 to as many as receive Jesus. But you could not come to Christ without trusting Him, and John 1:12 shows that receiving Jesus is the same as believing on His name.

Dear sinner, do not make this a difficult matter. There is one simple step between you and Jesus. When you trust Him, everything

Loyal Worker



Miss Sarah DeForest became a charter member of the Sword Book Club in July, 1945, and began working in the Book Club office in Wheaton in March, 1948. She is a loyal, indefatigable worker and has much to do with the efficient service which members commend.

else is settled, and you have repented, you have come to Christ, you have received Him, you have done everything necessary to be saved. Take the answer in Acts 16:31 at face value: "BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED!" All through the Bible in dozens of Scriptures, salvation is promised to those that believe. Read carefully the following Scriptures and see that again and again, many, many times, God has promised all any poor sinner would ever need when he believes on the Lord Jesus Christ.

"But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that BELIEVE on his name."—John 1:12.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever BELIEVETH in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever BELIEVETH in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:14-16.

"He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that BELIEVETH not is condemned already, because he hath not BELIEVED in the name of the only begotten Son of God."—John 3:18.

"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that BELIEVETH not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."—John 3:36.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and BELIEVETH on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life."—John 5:24.

"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and BELIEVETH on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day."—John 6:40.

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that BELIEVETH on me hath everlasting life."—John 6:47.

"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever BELIEVETH in him shall receive remission of sins."—Acts 10:43.

"And by him all that BELIEVE are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."—Acts 13:39.

Read again the Scripture we started with:

"What must I do to be saved?" "BELIEVE on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."—Acts 16:30-31.

Trust Jesus, the Great Physician

If you were sick and about to die, and there was some good doctor whom you could trust, would you not risk him to take your case, give you the necessary treatment, and with God's help get you well? Then just like that, trust in Christ, depend on Him for your salvation, and turn it over to Him today. With the same kind of faith that will call in a doctor and risk him for your body, you can call

in the Lord Jesus Christ and risk Him to forgive your sins and save your poor lost soul! He said, "They that are whole need not a physician, but they that are sick" (Luke 5:31). He is the Great Physician and will heal your soul instantly if you will trust Him. As you would trust a doctor, submit to his treatment, depend on him for results, so trust Jesus today about your soul. To be sure, human doctors fail many times, their results at best are gradual and so no doctor is a perfect picture of Jesus. The doctor can work no miracles, but Jesus can, and the change that is needed in that poor, wicked heart, He will make immediately, instantly, without any further effort on your part, when you trust Him!

Jesus Is Our Lawyer

If you had committed a crime and were thrown in jail, probably the first thing you would do would be to send for some lawyer in whom you had confidence and trust him with the entire matter of your defense. In God's sight you are a criminal, condemned already and with the wrath of God upon you day by day. But God has provided somebody to take the part of us poor sinners, criminals before the bar of God's justice, and Jesus is that lawyer, for the Scripture says:

"If any man sin, we have an advocate (or lawyer) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."—I John 2:1-2.

Jesus will not only be your lawyer to defend your case; He has already paid the penalty and you may safely trust Him to have you immediately pardoned and justified! Why not simply risk Jesus as you would risk a good lawyer? Jesus is better than any lawyer, of course, and you do not have to pay Him a fee, and He never fails.

A Wedding

A young man and young woman stand together, side by side, before the preacher. The preacher says, "You will join right hands." Then to the young man he says, "Do you take this young woman to be your lawfully wedded wife, to love her and cherish her until death do you part?" He answers, "I do." To the young woman the preacher says, "Do you take this man to be your lawfully wedded husband until death do you part?" She answers, "I do." Then the preacher says, "I pronounce you man and wife," and they are married in the sight of God and man. What a simple picture of salvation! Jesus is the Bridegroom and we who trust Him are to be His bride. Already Jesus has loved you and has long urged you to accept His love. Jesus invites you to accept His love. Jesus invites you to believe in Him right now and be saved and so become a part of His bride. Will you not right now with the same simple faith of that young woman who takes a husband, accept Jesus as your Saviour and say to Him, "I do?"

Make It Sure—Claim Him Today!

The way is plain and you can be saved this moment if you will.

Surely it has become plain, dear lost sinner, that it is your own fault if you are lost! Do you hate Jesus Christ? Will you hold on to your sin and go to Hell for your stubbornness? Nothing in the world could show your wickedness like postponing this matter. You can be saved right now, this minute. I beg you, do it now. Turn your whole heart from sin to trust in Christ. Choose for Heaven against Hell, choose for Christ against Satan. Do not let Satan deceive you any longer. If you delay, it may result in a hardened heart, a wasted life and a tortured soul in Hell! And if you are not saved, when God has made the way so plain and paid the price for your sins, then you have no one to blame but yourself. Will you trust Jesus Christ today and be saved?

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."—Prov. 27:1.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."—II Cor. 6:2.

"Today if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts."—Heb. 3:7-8.

Keeping Posted

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Evangelist
JOHN R. RICE

MARCH 25

Easter Sunrise Service

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Buffalo, New York

APRIL 22-29

Highland Park Baptist Church

Bible Conference
Chattanooga, Tenn.
Dr. Lee Roberson, Pastor

God has given you this heart-beat, this breath, this moment in order to trust Christ, but there is no promise of another. I beg you do it right now, and then claim Him as your Saviour.

If you realize that you are a sinner, if you believe that Christ died for you, if you honestly trust Christ as your Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all your sins, will you not sign the following statement and send it to me, so that I may rejoice with you? Then you have the assurance that Jesus will confess you before His Father, as you confess Him before men, for He said:

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."—Matt. 10:32.

You are saved when you trust Christ, but much of the assurance and joy you get when you claim Christ and He claims you and sends the Holy Spirit to make you happy. If you are willing to claim Him, then just say so today in the following statement.

19

Evangelist John R. Rice,
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know.

Signed _____

Address _____

Get others to decide if possible, and send in their names, too. Either clip out this statement and mail it or write on postcard or letter.

One who trusts Christ should then publicly claim Christ before men. It is God's plan that after trusting Him you should be baptized and join in with His people. I hope you will join a church and let yourself be known publicly from this time forth as a child of God.

Requests for Prayer

SWORD OF THE LORD

Prayer Helpers

Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Christian Friends:

The following friends or loved ones of mine have not come to know Christ as a personal Saviour as far as I know. I promise you and God that I will earnestly try to get them to accept Jesus Christ as their own personal Saviour within the next ten weeks. I promise also to set aside certain time every day to earnestly pray for their salvation. I promise to let you know when they come to Christ in answer to our prayers. Will you please join me in daily prayer for them? The names are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

My own name is _____

Address _____

Dr. Bob Jones Says:

A few days ago I asked Dr. Stenholm, our director of religious extension, to give me a late report on the activities of our "preacher boys." You see, we have matriculated here this year 1,202 young men who are preparing for the ministry. We have been having year by year for several years about 10 or 12 per cent increase; so we are just running about normal when we matriculate about twelve hundred. We will probably have more "preacher boys" next year. We, however, under the present war conditions are checking ministerial applicants more carefully than ever. Well, back to the work these "preacher boys" are doing now. You know, every week end these "preacher boys" go into five or six and sometimes seven states to preach the Gospel and witness and do personal work. All of them do not go every week end, but not less than six hundred of them go out every week end. Here is the report of right at six hundred of them on a recent week end: They conducted 671 public services. They dealt personally with 2,343 unsaved people. They distributed 21,834 Gospel tracts telling sinners what to do to be saved. They have a record of 602 clear-cut conversions, and there were 184 backsliders who were reclaimed. Dr. Stenholm tells me that last week end there were more than nine hundred young preachers who went out from the campus—some of them a distance of six hundred miles away—to try to win souls to the Lord Jesus Christ. I have not yet been able to get this report.

My friends, even we folks here on Bob Jones University campus cannot fully grasp the

bigness of the job that is being done by these sincere, earnest, consecrated Christian young men who are called of God to preach and who are willing to go anywhere that God wants them to go in order to give His message to lost men and women. Many of our students who are not studying for the ministry go out on the week ends, but we have given you just the report of the work of the ministerial students.

A good percentage of these young men who are preparing for the ministry have to have financial assistance in order to stay in school. A number of them have part work/loan scholarships. We are helping these young men out of the Student Loan Endowment Fund which we are raising and in which some of you have had a real part. Remember, we are endeavoring to raise one million dollars for this fund, and we wish to reach half of the amount by the time the school year closes, May 30. Now, you can help us; first, by praying for us; second, by making a personal contribution of some amount; third, by asking your friends to pray for Bob Jones University and also to make a financial contribution to the Student Loan Endowment Fund. Some of you who have already contributed financially will wish to give additional financial assistance between now and the close of the school year. We would like very much to hear from you as early as possible. Remember, we are counting on you. Thank you and God bless you.

BOB JONES, Founder
Bob Jones University
Greenville, S. C.

(Advertisement)

"Is It Well With Thee?"

(Continued from page 1)

sought his father and the reapers in the field. The hot sun of the East beat down upon him so that as he came into the presence of his father he threw his hands to his head, saying, "Oh, my head, my head!" His father turned to a servant and said, "Carry him to his mother." And the lad carried him to his mother and placed him upon her knees and he lay upon her knees until about noon and then he died. You cannot imagine the sorrow of that Shunamite woman unless you have passed through like affliction.

She was an exceedingly wise mother. She did not shut herself up with the body of her dead boy and refuse to be comforted, nor sit alone with her grief and let her heart break. But she turned away from the home at Shunem and she said, "Elisha is across the plains in the mountains of Carmel," and she hastened after him.

Elisha saw her coming. He turned to his old servant Gehazi and said, "Yonder comes the Shunamite woman; go and see what she wants." And Gehazi, obedient to his master's command, starts down the mountain-

side. When he comes near enough for the woman to hear his voice, he cries out to her after the manner of the East, "Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy husband? Is it well with the child?" And she in turn replies, "It is well."

I suppose he thought that she would stop and tell him the nature of her errand to his master, but she pushes on past him and up into the presence of Elisha, where I suppose she sobbed out the account of the death of her boy.

By this time, Gehazi appears, and Elisha says to him, "Take this rod and go down and lay it upon the boy and see if he will live," and just as he starts to obey, Elisha says, "Salute no one."

I never realized what this expression meant until in the Holy Land I noticed the length of time required to complete the Eastern salutation, and I am quite sure that what Elisha meant to say was that there was no time for even the ordinary courtesies of life. The boy was dead, the mother was heartbroken, and the father was waiting in grief and despair, thinking that Gehazi might be the means of raising the child.

Important Memo--

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Please report both new and old addresses directly to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, five weeks before the change is to take effect. Copies that we address to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office, unless you pay them extra postage. Avoid this unnecessary expense by notifying us five weeks in advance.

THE SWORD OF THE LORD
Subscription Dept.

214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Ill.

I have an idea that when Gehazi started down the mountainside at his master's command that Elisha thought the Shunamite woman would follow him, but she did not do so. I see her at the feet of the master. I hear her saying unto him, "Oh, thou man of God, thou knowest that I did not desire a child of the Lord. He gave him to me. Now, He has taken him away from me. As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee."

And so Elisha takes her by the hand and starts down the mountainside. He comes into the home in Shunem, put his hands to the boy's hands, his mouth to the boy's mouth, his eyes to the boy's eyes, and prays only as a servant of God could pray. Suddenly, there is a touch of color in the boy's cheeks. He sneezes seven times. His eyes are opened. Elisha takes him by the hand and bids Gehazi call his mother. And I think I see her rushing up and down the streets of Shunem, saying, "My boy was dead and is alive again." And there was joy in the old home in Shunem.

Why do you suppose this story was placed in the Old Testament? It is true that it is one of the miracles of Elisha. But why is it told? It would seem to me that among other reasons it is there for this purpose, that we might understand what it is to pray with importunity. "Do you believe," said a young woman to me in the city of Boston, "that if my

mother and I should pray all night that my brother would be saved?"

I said to her, "If I were you I would pray all night if I were led to do it."

To my certain knowledge that brother had not been within four miles of the place of meeting. Before ten o'clock they were on their knees. At twelve o'clock they were praying, at three o'clock they were still crying out unto God, when the mother rose from her knees to say, "I believe God will hear us," and closed her eyes in sleep. I saw that young man the next evening stand in the great church and say that he had spent a sleepless night. I heard him say that he occupied a most important position in the city of Boston. He said, "This morning, as the day was breaking, I gave myself to Jesus." I think the story of the Shunamite is in the Old Testament that we might thus learn how to pray.

One evening my telephone bell rang. When I went to answer the call, I heard a voice that seemed to me to be almost choked with emotion say, "Will you pray for me?" and I said, "Certainly I will pray for you. But will you not meet me this evening at the close of the service?"

I went to the service that night and at the close of the meeting there came up to me this man who had telephoned me. He said he occupied a responsible position as bookkeeper in the city. He said, "My father is a minister, my mother is a sincere Christian. I have been feeling the power of their praying. I have felt a great sense of need in my soul, and when I heard the song this evening, 'O, mother, when I think of thee, 'tis but a step to Calvary,' I bowed my head and took Christ."

It seems to me that the story may be in the Old Testament that we may be led to the kind of praying that went up to God on behalf of that minister's son. I am sure the story is there to teach us how to pray.

"As the Lord liveth and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee."

We have had days of prayer. I wonder how many of us have had nights of prayer. We have prayed minutes for our children. How many of us have prayed by the day for our children? And yet the story of prayer from the very first prayer that was offered until the last one that was sobbed out this evening, is this story, that when we pray in faith God does hear, and He will answer.

I think the text takes in everyone in its teaching. "Is it well with thee?" That is *personal* salvation. "Is it well with thy husband?" That is interest in the salvation of others. "Is it well with the child?" That is interest in your own household.

"Is It Well With Thee?"

I ask the first question, "Is it well with thee?" I will answer it for everyone in need. The man who is rich in worldly goods, highly honored in society, the man who has risen to some place of distinction, knows that in his heart there is an ache that money cannot stop and position cannot help. The man whose outward life may seem to be all right knows that in his heart there is again and again the cry for God.

"Is it well with thee?" I should like to answer the question for you if you will allow me. It is not well, and for two or three reasons. First, because sin is too mighty. No one of us is able to withstand the awful power of sin in his own strength. Sin is too mighty.

There came into the city of New York a young Scotchman. He came from the hill country in Scotland. A friend of mine went to ask him to be a Christian. The young fellow only sneered at him. "Why," he said, "I have a character as rugged and as strong as the hill country from whence I came. I have never felt the need of Christ." In New York he began to go down. In the city of Chicago he made the wreck complete. Another friend of mine went to see him at the hospital, but the doctor refused to allow him to enter. He said, "You could no more touch him, than you could touch a leper."

But when my friend said, "I

have come to pray with him," the hospital door swung open. Lying upon a cot in one of the wards of the hospital was this young Scotchman. His eyes could scarcely close, his tongue and lips could hardly articulate, the joints of his body were beginning to separate. He was a leper indeed.

"My God," said the visitor, "isn't it awful!"

The doctor said, "Don't touch him, you must not touch him."

The poor fellow turned his head on the pillow and said, "Mr. Smith, do you think that if I should cry unto God today He would save me? Drop on your knees, sir, and pray for me."

When the prayer was ended he started again to raise himself up on his elbow, and said, "Tell the men of the United States that sin is too mighty for them to resist." Sin is too awful in its power to be trifled with. It is not well with thee.

I have another reason. Trouble is on every side of us. I am sure that no one of us can get along without Jesus Christ in the day when trouble comes. All the money in the world could not of necessity buy comfort when the heart is aching. A man worth twenty million dollars said to a friend of mine, "All the money I have ever earned and all the money that is today in the bank to my credit has never given me peace."

One of the richest men in the United States was walking down Broadway with a business acquaintance whom I knew. This gentleman said to the man of wealth, "I suppose you are a very happy man with your fortune, which is so far up in the millions?"

And the many-time millionaire looked into the face of his boyhood friend and said, "Do you know, I have not, with all my money, the peace and comfort and satisfaction that I had when I was a boy working for a dollar a day."

Too much of trouble on every side. When the day comes that you yourself are ill, when the day comes that the family cord binding your household together is strained, you will need Jesus. You cannot get along without Him.

Dr. A. J. Gordon of Boston said that a man came in to see him one day, and said, "Dr. Gordon, will you come with me to the

(Continued on page 7)

12 Soul Winning Helps FREE



"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins."—James 5:20.

We want to make it easy for every reader of THE SWORD OF THE LORD to win some precious soul during our special revival campaign. Here is our suggestion. WE WILL SEND YOU ABSOLUTELY FREE 12 copies of Dr. Rice's famous booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" Millions of copies of this pamphlet have been distributed in several languages. It shows that all are sinners, shows how to be saved, answers questions, brings sinners to decision. There is a decision form which one who is ready to turn from his sins and accept Christ may sign, copy and mail to us.

If you will give these attractive 24-page booklets to a number of unsaved friends and get them to agree to prayerfully, seriously read the booklet, there is a good chance that some of them will be led to Christ. Call attention to some particular parts of the message. Call attention to the decision form which honest, penitent sinners may sign when they trust in Christ. It will make the plan of salvation wonderfully clear. BUT you MUST sign this solemn pledge if you want the books free. We cannot send free copies except on this basis.

"I SOLEMNLY PROMISE . . ."

Sword of the Lord Publishers
214 West Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Friends:

1. ☐ Please send me 12 copies of the pamphlet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" I solemnly promise that I will give every one of them out within the next month, that I will give them only to people who promise to read them, that I will earnestly urge those taking the tracts to decide for Christ.

2. ☐ I enclose \$_____ for copies of the booklet at \$2 per hundred.

Signed _____

Address _____

City _____ Z _____ State _____

P. S. You may buy as many copies of this booklet as you like at \$2 per hundred.

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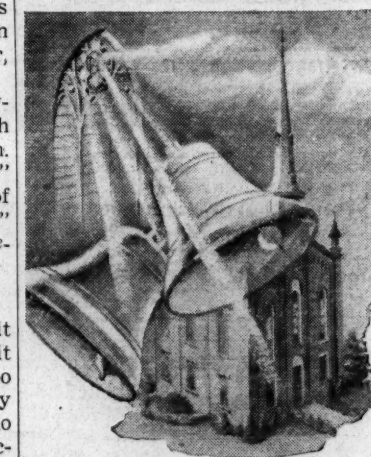
Revival on

(Continued from page 1)

any requests for this prayer meeting except for people you will definitely try to win to Christ, and for whom you will have a special time of prayer every day. But if you have a loved one or neighbor or friend whom you will earnestly try to win to Christ now, by personal conversation, by getting them to promise to read sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, or getting them to read Christian tracts, or taking them to church with you to hear a soul-winning preacher—and if you will have an earnest time of prayer daily for them, then send us their names and we will join you in fervent prayer for their salvation. We hope you will take this to heart. We will earnestly pray for those who will try to win, if you will send us their names on this basis.

4. We will send you a packet of twelve copies of my booklet "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" (24 pages each) if you will sign a solemn agreement that you will give them only to people who promise to read them. If you want to hand them out promiscuously without doing any personal work, and if you want to send them through the mail to people who may not even look at them, then you should buy them at two cents each. But if you will solemnly pledge yourself to give these booklets only to those who promise to read them, and if you will accompany the gift with personal effort to get them saved, then we will be glad to send the twelve copies of this booklet to you free. Don't waste them, and don't promise unless you mean to keep your promise. God will bless the careful sowing of this gospel seed. Will you write for yours today on the blank provided? (Of course, if you want to send an offering to help on the heavy printing expense of these pamphlets, we will appreciate it.)

We hope you get a great blessing through this revival effort in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Tell us how we can help you to win souls!



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"Is It Well With Thee?"

(Continued from page 6)

funeral of my little baby?" The great preacher thought he was going to lead in the service of a great funeral, but he came out to find only one carriage waiting at the door. In the carriage was a little white casket. The father and the minister rode all the way from Boston to the cemetery without a word. The little casket was taken out and carried out to the grave. The man put his hand into his vest pocket, took out a little key and unlocked the casket. He raised the lid, looked down on the little white face, closed the lid and put the key in his pocket. He then turned away from the grave, and rode all the way back to the city of Boston without a word. And just as A. J. Gordon left the carriage he said the man reached out his hands, and taking hold of his hand with both of his said, "Doctor Gordon, wait a moment. She was all I had. She was all I had." Sobbing as if his heart would break he said, "She was all I had." "And," said Doctor Gordon, "he was without hope." There is too much of trouble. Therefore, it is not well with thee.

I should like to give you two or three reasons why you should turn to God. First, *God is ready*. All the way through the Old Testament story, and all the way through the New Testament story you will find this stated. From the very first day when He went walking through the garden in the cool of the day saying, "Where art thou?" to the last sob of Jesus on the cross, God has been ready. "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thought, and let him return unto the Lord." It is not a question with God as to how many times you have sinned, nor how far you have wandered, nor how black your life is, nor how helpless and hopeless you are. God is ready.

Second, *Jesus is ready*. I heard Mr. Moody say once in his preaching that when Jesus was upon Patmos He gave His message to John which we find in the Revelation, which is a mysterious Book to many people. Before the Book was closed, He told John to put something in for everybody,

and Mr. Moody said, "I can imagine him putting this in the Revelation: 'And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.' And I can imagine Jesus saying to John, 'But they won't understand that exactly, make it plainer.' Then he wrote, 'Let him that heareth say, Come.'"

But there will be some who won't hear, and so, said Mr. Moody, there was added, "and let him that is athirst come." But I imagine him saying that there will be some that are athirst and won't know it. And so the invitation is given that is as broad as from everlasting to everlasting, which reaches down to the lowest and up to the highest. There is no one whose case is hopeless in his estimation, but that the invitation is for him. The young girl whose heart is heavy as sin can make it, who feels so helpless—it is for her. The man whose conscience is condemning him—the invitation is for him. Christ is ready.

Your mother is ready. Your friends are ready.

I received a letter one morning blotted with tears. When I started to read it I knew that the writing must be by one who certainly knew very well how to write English. As I read on into the letter I saw that the hand evidently had been trembling. Down further the letters were not formed correctly and down at the last it was almost a scrawl; over the page it seemed to me there were drops of tears. This was the letter: "Please pray for my daughter only sixteen years of age; she has lost everything that makes a girl's life worth living. She has all but killed her father, and she is killing me." Such sorrowing friends are ready.

And then remember *they are ready in Heaven*. Your mother, your father, your brother, your sister—they are all ready.

"Will you shake hands with me?" said a gentleman in New York City. As I stepped to the platform he put his hand up to me and said, "Remember, sir, I have been a drunkard," and I took his hand in mine for a moment. Then he said, "I will tell you my story. One day I was literally lying in the gutter intoxicated, when a gentleman came along and said, 'If you would see your boy alive, hurry.' I hastened to the hospital where they had taken him. A great wagon had gone over him and he was dying. When I came into the room he caught me by my hand, and his fingers were only long enough to go round three of my fingers; he pulled me down upon my knees and holding on to me with his fingers that were nearly stiff in death, he said, 'Father, I will never let go of you, I will never let go of you. You must meet me in Heaven.' And do you know, sir, he died with his fingers around mine. The doctor came, bent back his fingers and released my hand. It was this hand," and holding it up above his head, he said, "it kept pulling and pulling and pulling, until at last I became a Christian." You know who it is in the skies. You know who it is that is holding you today. Your friends are ready.

"Is It Well With Thy Husband?" Then there is a second question. "Is it well with thy husband?" I do

A Debate!

Question: "Resolved That Storehouse Tithing is the Proper Scriptural Doctrine of Financial Stewardship." Dr. Gabriel R. Guedj affirms, Editor John R. Rice denies.

Does God require all tithes of Christians to be given through the local church treasury? Dr. Guedj says, **Yes**; Dr. Rice says, **No**.

Three articles by each of these men have already been published. We regret that there has been an unavoidable delay, but expect to publish both rebuttals at an early date.

Part 4 Coming

not mean only the husband that is today by your side, with whom you have been walking along life's journey so long (yet I do mean your husband, too). Is it well with anyone whom you know is away from Christ? Answer it, not aloud, but to yourself. "Is it well with thy husband?"

The saddest thing in the world to me is that sacred things divide us. Trouble rarely divides us. The more our hearts ache, the closer we come together. Sickness does not often do it. Your fingers have become so thin that if you held your hand down, your wedding ring would slip away. But your heart only beats the truer to the one whom you love. The saddest thing in the world to me is that sacred things divide us. The communion table is between us. The church is between us. "Is it well with thy husband?" This is the statement made in God's Word: "He that believeth not is condemned already." "He that hath not the Son of God, hath not life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."

"Is It Well With The Child?"

"Is it getting night?" said an old Scotch woman ninety-seven years of age. "Husband," she said, "is it getting night?"

And her aged Scotch husband by her side, realizing that she was dying, bent down close to her and said, "Yes, Janet, it is getting night." She was wandering a bit and was back in the olden days with her loved ones, but he knew that the end was near.

She was still a moment, and then said, "Are the boys all in?" "Yes," he said, "the boys are all in, Janet." The last one had gone home three years before.

She was again still a moment more when she said, "I will soon be in."

"Yes, Janet, you will soon be in." "And you will soon come, too?" she asked.

"Yes," he said, "by the grace of God, I will soon come, too."

She reached out her thin hands in order that she might clasp them round his neck and draw him down by her side as she said, "And He will then shut us all in."

"All in."

I wonder if you can say it—with the boys all in; the girls all in. It is a sad thing to have a boy that is a wanderer, and a girl that is lost.

Is it well with the child? Your child, my child. I have such confidence in God that I know perfectly well that if a child dies in infancy before it is able to choose the Saviour for itself—I know perfectly well that God's matchless grace avails for the little one that passes by the short route into Heaven. But can any of you tell me when our boys pass to the age of accountability? Can any of you tell me when a girl comes to the place where she knows the difference between right and wrong?

I almost believe you might take people into church too old, but I do not believe you can take them into church too young, if the child is cared for. Is it well with the child? The question is solemn. The only hope is in Christ. Choose Him now, and seek to win others to Him.

(From the book, *Revival Sermons*, by J. Wilbur Chapman. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company. Used by permission.)

Please Mention
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
When Answering Advertisements

Soul Winning Suggestion

Go After Them Out Of The Pulpit!

By the Editor

This week I have a suggestion for my preacher brethren. I remember how shocked I was some years ago when a pastor told me that he never won a single soul to Christ outside of the pulpit. Again, once when a sinner came to Christ and I led him to a certain evangelist the evangelist asked me to instruct the convert further. "I don't know how to do that," the evangelist said.

I say, it is a shocking thing for a preacher not to be an earnest and skilled and successful personal soul winner. And I want to suggest that every preacher who reads this start a new emphasis on personal soul winning in his own life. All of us have a tendency to become professional in our ministry. A man who has the pastorate of a strong church, feels the burden of leadership there, feels he must feed the saints of God and must carry on his work as the leader of the flock. Well and good; but still that is not the main thing. God's plan is that every individual should be a personal soul winner and that is even more obligatory upon a preacher than upon others. A preacher who is to tell others how to live must be right on the main thing; he must be a personal soul winner.

Jesus was continually winning souls privately. He talked to Nicodemus personally. He talked to the woman at the well of Sychar. He won the dying thief personally. He took time to win the sinful woman who wept over His feet and dried His feet with her hair. He saved the woman afflicted with an issue of blood who stooped down and touched His garment in a crowd and told her she was forgiven. We ought to follow our Master in this matter.

Paul was a great soul winner. He told the elders at Ephesus that he had gone night and day with tears, both publicly and from house to house in that great city (Acts 20:20, 21, 31). Paul won the deputy, Sergius Paulus, in direct contact (Acts 13:7-12). Paul seems to have won many in personal conversation. So preachers today ought to win them.

D. L. Moody for long years maintained the inflexible habit of personally trying to win at least one soul a day. Dr. R. A. Torrey did such personal work constantly. So did Billy Sunday. I saw Billy Sunday approach a multi-millionaire oil man about his soul, at the University Club at Fort Worth, Texas. Gipsy Smith did personal soul-winning work all the time. I knew him to win a taxicab driver outside the First Baptist Church, Dallas, at the close of a tremendous service there.

Preacher, take your Bible and go now to see some of the men whose families are in your church. Or go to see some Junior boy or girl, some Intermediate, whose name you will get from the Sunday school teacher, who is unsaved. Instead of going to see the shut-

ins and the sick people who are already saints of God, go to see unsaved people for a few days and earnestly try to win somebody to Jesus Christ every day. Will you do that, Brother Pastor?

I suggest that you make a visit to the local jail. Nearly always somebody there can be won to Christ. Take along some good Christian literature and leave it with the converts. And if the cases are too hard and you cannot get an immediate decision, leave literature and go back to see them the next day.

Make a visit to the local hospital. Nearly always the hospital will allow a pastor to visit, and nearly always poor, lonely, tired people will be pleased to have the pastor come for a word of prayer and a good handshake. Make sure that you ask them if they know the Saviour and if not ask if they will allow you to have a short prayer and if they will be willing for you to ask Jesus to come right in today and save them. They will be glad. People in hospitals are easier to win than people on the outside.

I suggest that if possible you go visit a rescue mission. Surprisingly this, one of the most fruitful places for soul winning in the world, is a field that the average pastor does not take advantage of. If there is a rescue mission, or a mission Sunday school, or a country church that cannot afford a preacher, make a date to go and preach the gospel, preach one of the old-time sermons, give an invitation for people to accept Christ, press the invitation and expect God to bless it! Dear preacher, get out of your own nice pulpit for a little bit and get somebody saved through personal contact or through reaching those not reached through your ordinary ministry from the pulpit.

I suggest that you get our pamphlets,

The Backslider; A Good Man Lost and a Bad Man Saved; Neglect, the Shortest Way to Hell; Religious but Lost; Trained By a Wild Beast; Hell—What the Bible Says About It.

All of these are addressed to the unsaved, are from twenty-four to forty large pages each and the price per copy is fifteen cents each. They are colorful, beautifully-printed and unsaved people take them gladly, read them carefully. I suggest you also get *Bible Facts About Heaven*, sixty-four large

(Continued on page 11)

ANGLO-ISRAELISM ANSWERED

By the Editor

Before me is a book, *Real Israel and Anglo-Israelism*, by George L. Rose. If you have been tempted or troubled with this heresy, I advise you to write and get this book. British-Israel teachers make the fantastic claim that Jeremiah brought a daughter of the kings of Israel to Ireland at the time of the captivity of Judah; that this princess married an Irish prince, and that all God's promises to Israel about the kingdom have been passed on to Ireland and then to England and to Scotland and now to America. In other words, the teaching is that the Anglo-Saxon people are the real Israel! They say that the ten lost tribes migrated from Assyria all the way to England; that Great Britain represents Ephraim in Bible prophecies and the United States represents Manasseh.

This is a foolish, unscriptural, hurtful heresy. They depend on traditions, myths, arguments, upon the Great Pyramid in Egypt, instead of founding their teaching on the Bible. This fantastic doctrine goes against secular history, goes against reason, goes against the clear teaching of the Bible in many cases.

Here Mr. Rose has brought 175 pages of evidence together, 14 chapters, proving that the Anglo-Saxon people are not Israel, and answering these foolish arguments on their own grounds. He

was formerly ensnared by this British-Israel cult himself, now is able to answer it thoroughly. The book is recommended by Dr. Paul W. Rood, president of the World's Christian Fundamental Association, has been reviewed favorably by *Moody Monthly*, *Sunday School Times*, the *Pentecostal Evangel*, *Alliance Weekly*, and many other Christian publications. In paper binding the large book sells for \$1.25. It is published by the Rose Publishing Company, 1231-B, East Harvard Street, Glendale 5, California.

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Rev. Homer Stanley Morgan

CHRISTIAN MISSION TO CHURCHLESS COMMUNITIES
Room 805, 140 Nassau St., New York 38, N. Y.

Dealing With the Individual

(Continued from page 1)

how many came to Christ as the result of a direct personal effort and appeal on the part of some faithful believer. The response has been uniformly the same, a majority always declaring that they had sought and found the Lord because of the individual effort of some individual.

The individual approach is the most effectual for the preacher. An evangelistic pastor in Cincinnati some time ago laid his hand on the arm of a fine young man as he was leaving the church, looked him in the eye, and asked him if he was a Christian. The young man evidently welcoming the question, replied, "No sir, I have heard you preach every Sunday for seven years, but I am not a Christian yet." The two walked together into the pastor's study and within five minutes the young man had made the great surrender and declared his faith in Jesus Christ. Seven years of brilliant preaching had failed; five minutes alone together and the soul was won. The minister can instruct and impress from the pulpit, but in order to win he must come into close "grips" with the lost.

It is likewise effectual for the teacher. A choice boy presented himself for church membership one Sunday morning. "Harry," said the pastor, "how does it happen that you are here? There is no revival on, and others are not seeking the Lord; tell us how it is that you come confessing Christ."

Harry studied for a moment and then said, "It is like this: last Sunday morning my teacher said, 'Wouldn't you like to walk with me in the park this afternoon? I have something very important I want to talk with you about.' Now, we boys are always glad to be with our teacher, so I said, 'Sure, you may count on me.' At four o'clock teacher and I were walking together in the park. We sat down on a rustic seat and teacher said, 'Harry, I want you for the Lord Jesus. You know I have long prayed for this, and I asked you to come out here with me alone that we might settle this great question.' Out there in the park I gave my heart to the Lord, and now I want to be baptized and live among his people."

What is true of the preacher and of the teacher is equally true of every other worker—if we will win men we must deal with them personally; nothing can take the place of the personal touch.

Church officers have found that the individual approach will avail. Dr. Cortland Myers in the stirring booklet entitled *The New Evangelism*, tells how a faithful minister assembled his official Board and opened his heart to them, telling them of his conviction that the deepest need in the church which they served was personal effort and individual approach to the lost. He told them of his deep concern because souls were not being saved. And he declared with much earnestness his conviction that the failure of the church was probably due to their failure in that they were not going personally to the lost to warn them of their peril. He asked how many had ever won a soul to the Saviour. Only two out of fifteen present had reason to believe that they had ever been thus used.

As the pastor pressed this duty on their consciences, the men were aroused and tears attested their deep conviction. One of the men, a banker, had four sons grown to manhood who had never confessed Christ. His heart smote him for his neglect. He left the room in silence. He hurried to his home resolved to make amends for his neglect. Before the morning's dawn, he had talked and prayed separately for each of those four sons and had besought them to seek the Lord. The next Sunday those four sons presented themselves for membership in the church. The next morning when this banker went into his office, the first man who came in to see him was a trusted employe who was not a Christian. Closing the door the banker said to the young

man, "I have something to talk to you about. I am glad we are alone. Do you know that I have been a Christian ever since we have known each other?"

The man stood dazed before him, but replied "Yes."

"Do you know that I am now an elder in the Presbyterian Church?"

Still more surprised, he replied, "Yes."

"Haven't you thought it strange that I never spoke to you about your relation to Christ?"

"Yes, sir," said the man, "and I have been in your office a hundred times and not only wondered why you didn't say it, but waited for you to do so."

Dr. Myers declares that in that business office that morning another soul was added to Jesus, and thus one church officer learned the joy and experienced the power of a personal dealing with lost men.

Parents likewise must depend on the face-to-face individual appeal. Some one tells of a boy who came to confess Christ. When the pastor asked him what brought him to Jesus, the rather startling reply was, "A cigarette." Then the boy hastened to explain: "I smoked my first cigarette. I did so in secret, but my father somehow discovered my sin. I thought he would be angry, and expected him to punish me. Instead, my father sorrowfully talked to me of his pain for this folly and then told me of his grief for my sins in general. He told me how much he wanted to see me come to Christ. And, sir, I knelt down alone with my father and right there I gave myself to the Lord."

II. How Shall We Deal with the Individual?

Win respect and affection. It is, of course, essential first of all that we who would win the child to Christ shall command his qualified respect. Young people are exacting in their demands. Their standards are somewhat inflexible and their demands are rigid. Later they will learn to make allowance and will know more of the temptations and battles of life. At present they have their ideals and woe to their elders if they fall short or in any wise disappoint their expectations. It is possible in one single hour of laxity or swerving to shatter the confidence of the adolescent boy or girl.

It is scarcely less important to win love. It is one thing to command respect, it is a higher thing to draw out love.

A teacher stood alone with her pupil in the quiet of the evening; "Louise, do you love me?" For response the child pressed the teacher's hand and gave her an impulsive kiss. "But, Louise, if you love me, I want you to love my Saviour." How many children and older people have come to love Jesus because they had learned to love someone whose life is devoted to Him.

Seize the opportune time. This is always a matter of prime consequence in winning the lost. There are critical moments when the Spirit seems to set ajar all doors of approach to the soul, moments when the gentlest whisper will penetrate to the deep recesses of the heart. Such times may come at the most unexpected seasons. We should watch for them as the watchman watches for the morning. It may be that under the teaching of a lesson or under a sermon the Spirit will begin his work and will call for our cooperation to carry that work to completion in salvation. It may be that some sorrow or disappointment will bring the opportune time. Such time will most likely come all unexpectedly and there may be nothing more than a sigh, a question, a yearning in the voice to serve notice that the way is open for the word touching the Saviour.

"I remember very well," wrote a young man, "the morning I packed up my things to go and fill a situation in the city, how my mother prayed for me and said, as she thought of the temptations

I should be subject to, 'Oh, William, how I wish you were a Christian!' I wished so, too. She hoped all would be right. When that day I went into the garden to say good-bye to father and he saw me coming, he turned his head to hide the tears, and he reached out his calloused hand, calloused for me, and bade me seek the Saviour. I promised him I would, and I did." That father and mother, after years of waiting, spoke at an opportune time, and their son was converted.

Find the clue to the soul. In every life there is some natural, easy way into the inner soul, some simple key which will fit that special door and open it for the gospel message. We succeed in our efforts largely in proportion as we find that natural approach, and thus move along the line of least resistance.

A pastor visited a great business man in his office. A recent bereavement had befallen the man's family. He talked tenderly of his stricken wife and his sorrowing daughters, and spoke of their singular faith and beautiful devotion. The pastor thought he saw a clue to the man's soul. "You love your wife and these daughters; you grieve for them in their sorrow; would you like to do something which above all other things would bless them and make them supremely happy?"

Without suspecting what was in the pastor's mind, the man said, "I would do anything in the world, make any sacrifice, suffer anything to make my wife and daughters supremely happy."

The pastor said, quietly and earnestly, "The one thing which will bring them highest happiness will mean no sacrifice for you and will call for no suffering. If you will this day surrender your heart to God and trust Jesus Christ and go home and tell your wife and daughters that you have done so, their hearts will break for very happiness." The tactful pastor had found the weak spot in the strong man's armor; he had made the one appeal which could win the proud, sinful heart.

The battle was severe, but decisive. The leader of men, the captain of finance, touched in the depths of his nature by the mute yearning of devout loved ones, yielded his soul to the cleansing and the keeping of the Friend of sinners.

Find out and remove barriers. Much of our effort in soul-winning is ineffective because we fail at this point. We may urge a person to believe and trust Christ, when we might do better to seek out the secret indulgence, the unseen influence, which stands between the soul and Christ, and urge the confession and removal of the sin which constitutes the unsurmountable barrier.

A young man was under conviction for sin, and in distress and with evident sincerity was seeking the Lord. A Christian worker gave the usual instruction, presented again and again the way of life, but was disappointed in being unable to lead the seeking one to the Saviour. The two knelt to pray together and the worker asked the seeker to offer the prayer, "Our Father which art in heaven," etc. He proceeded to the petition, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Here the voice ceased and the suppliant refused to proceed. Suddenly it dawned upon the worker that an unforgiving spirit stood in the way. In tender but faithful words it was made clear that this sin must be confessed and forsaken. At last, in slow, measured tones, the words were uttered, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." Immediately the light dawned, and there was a sense of peace and acceptance with God.

A determination to hold to some sinful amusement, an obstinate refusal to do something which the Christian life may seem to require, may keep the soul from the kingdom of God. Be faithful; urge complete surrender and final submission.

Deal with the individual alone. There is a delicacy and a sense of sensitive shrinking in these deep matters of the heart. Young people do not open their inner selves freely in the presence of their associates. The heart may close, and

the deeper impressions may vanish if the question of personal religion be urged under such conditions. At least one Christian worker recalls the painful ordeals of being thus dealt with, and doubtless the experience of the one has been the experience of many. There are times, to be sure, in the great congregation when under the power of the Spirit it may seem easy and natural to speak a word or make a plea; at such times there may be even greater freedom than when two are alone together. The point of concern is that there shall be such absence of restraint, such easy freedom, as shall insure that the soul is at liberty quietly to face the real issue.

Pray Much. Whoever will win souls must be much in prayer. God has appointed certain means, such as his word and preaching and teaching, for bringing to salvation. But these are not sufficient apart from the Holy Spirit. No sinner ever came under conviction of sin save by the power of the Spirit. No sinner ever apprehended the atonement and appropriated its provisions, save through the blessed Spirit. Whatever gifts we possess, whatever influences we bring to bear, we must rely first and last on the divine Spirit to do His mighty work in the heart.

The Holy Spirit is given in answer to prayer. The first Pentecost came at the end of ten days of ceaseless prayer. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him" (Luke 11:13). It is needful that we shall importune the lost to turn to God, but we may not forget nor neglect to importune God to be gracious to the lost.

Successful soul-winners without exception, have been faithful and urgent in prayer. They rely on God for guidance as to the persons whom they shall approach, and as to the time and method of such approach. They wait on God for power, that strange, indefinable, irresistible power which comes through the anointing of the Spirit. When their efforts seem to fail

and hearts are as steel, they turn confidently to God and wait for help. They breathe the very breath of prayer and live in its holy atmosphere.

Lead the person whom you would win to pray. Lost souls are not saved without prayer, an earnest cry in their own behalf for mercy and pardon. They should be directed to approach God in prayer; they should be instructed as to the petitions which they are to make. Especially when we are seeking to lead them to a surrender to Christ, we should induce them to pray. If we can get them to kneel with us for prayer, if we can induce them to lift their voices to God either in their own words or in words which we may suggest, the way to surrender and trust becomes easy.

Press for a decision. Much of our effort to win the lost fails because we do not dare to close in and strike for a verdict. We bear witness in timid fashion and hasten to leave the lost soul in its indecision. Joshua's memorable word, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve," should be our urgent plea. Are we not commissioned to compel them to come in? Such urgency and insistence is proper from every viewpoint. The peril to which the lost soul is exposed, the yearning love of the divine heart, the promise of immediate pardon to the soul that yields every high and worthy consideration demands that we shall patiently and persistently press for a decision.—(From the book *Winning to Christ*, Broadman Press. Used by permission of the publisher.)

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Scripture Press

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

get out 250,000 copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in the next ten weeks, to sinners who promise to read the booklet, I know that hundreds of them will be saved. And if you will encourage unsaved neighbors and relatives and friends to read the sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD this week and in other issues, they are bound to bring blessed fruit for Christ. Will you help us?

It is one of the greatest heart-breaks of my life not to have the time and strength to give fully to great city-wide revivals. Yet God has so clearly laid on my heart this work of Christian literature that I must obey His orders. I have been spending about three weeks out of each month in revival work for many years. This year I am trying to spend nearly half the time at home, to edit THE SWORD OF THE LORD and to do other writing and to supervise the work of the Sword of the Lord Foundation, as I ought to do. It breaks my heart to turn down invitation after invitation, as I am having to do. I sat in the Boston airport Saturday morning, February 17, and wrote out in long-hand thirteen letters. Most of these were to pastors or to revival committees, regretfully refusing invitations for revivals. My time is so limited that when I can be away I plan to go only to the best opportunities. Please pray for me that God will help me to win many thousands of souls in the revival efforts and thousands more through THE SWORD OF THE LORD and the Christian literature we are putting out around the world. I know God is in it. The work requires more wisdom than I could possibly have without God's help. Pray for me!

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Six Years of Blessings From Books

SWORD BOOK CLUB CELEBRATES SIXTH BIRTHDAY

By Charles T. Lampman, Managing Editor

Six years ago Dr. Rice had an idea! That's why today 2,500 members are blessed through the Sword Book Club. Dr. Rice's idea was simple enough, but it has taken great patience and wisdom to father such a lusty youngster.

While the Sword Book Club was still in embryo form in the fertile mind of Dr. Rice he listed the prime requisites for the "best book club in America." (1) It must have high Christian ideals. (2) It must have the best available Christian judges. (3) It must offer the finest books published. (4) It must offer a good variety of selections. (5) It must render first-class service. (6) It must offer real savings to members. (7) It must render service rather than make money. Today, more than six years later, these same requisites still govern the Sword Book Club management.

That the Book Club is filling a need is abundantly attested by the following letters which have been made available to us:

A Positive Aid

"It has been my privilege to be a member of the Sword Book Club since its beginning. I would not be without the service. It is a positive aid to pastors. The selections are fine, dependable and up to date."

Rev. Hollis A. Burge
First Southern Baptist Church
San Diego 1, Calif.

Something Fresh to Read

"As a missionary in Africa, I want you to know how much the Sword Book Club has meant to me. Each month a most helpful book reaches my home. Since I travel a good deal, I usually drop it straight into my bag so that I will have something fresh to read when I am en route."

Dr. A. D. Helsner
Wheaton, Ill.

Done Me Much Good

"I am glad the Sword Book Club is going to celebrate its birthday, the sixth. The Club has done me so much good, because all the books you have sent me have been a blessing to me. I am grateful to the men who give of their time to review them and recommend them. Without this help it would be impossible for me to find them so easily as I do the Club's way."

C. O. Baptista
C. O. Baptista Films
Wheaton, Ill.

A Circulating Library

"All the members of the Reformed Presbyterian Missionary Societies are expected to read not less than four Christian books during each year, so I have sort of a circulating library of all the books which I buy from you, and as each member reads a book, she is requested to write her name on the fly leaf of the book, then pass it on to another member. I have been asked to keep track of the number of books

read by each lady, and then give a report of it at the end of our year. Whereas before scarcely anyone could report even four books read, I find that to date, this year (our year ends in April) many of the ladies have read as many as 12 and 14 books!"

Mrs. Samuel T. Lee
Clarinda, Iowa.

A Wonderful Aid

"I am a charter member of the Sword Book Club and treasure my books more than anything in my home. I have over 200 books, and I'm sure at least 100 came through the Club, besides many I have used for gifts, especially the children's books. The commentaries, biographies and devotional books have been a wonderful aid to me in my teaching; however, I keep a small assortment of fiction in my library for guests. I started my library from scratch six years ago, and have interested many others to do so—and now I say to you, join the Sword Book Club and you will be richly blessed, and be pleased with the selections they give you each month to choose from."

Mrs. H. Campbell
Robbinsdale, Minn.

They Had a Part

"I am happy to send a testimony on behalf of your fine book club selections. I believe they had a part in bringing me to full dedication of myself, my loved ones, and all we possess to the Lord."

Mrs. Ellis R. Zehr
Rockville, Ind.

I am Never Ashamed

"I prefer the Sword Book Club above all other book clubs because my library shelves are being filled with the best in literature; and I am never ashamed when my friends and children want something to read. Besides this we live in a small town and the Sword Book Club brings the best-known preachers and evangelists into our home."

Mrs. Adolph Holden
Mountain View, Mo.



H. A. Burge



C. O. Baptista

Supplies My Need

"I became a member of the Sword Book Club from the very beginning, and to the best of my knowledge I did not miss a single month in which I did

not purchase a book. I belong to two others, but am sorry to say that I seldom get books from these because of the modernistic books they sell. I can truthfully say from experience that the Sword Book Club supplies my needs and I can recommend it to anyone who is interested in reading good Christian literature."

Rev. Russell A. Hepner
Harrisburg 87, Pa.

Eager to Get More

"I have built up a fine library with my collection of books from the Sword Book Club. I also have solved most of my Christmas giving. I give these books to my Christian and unsaved friends alike and they always seem eager to get more of them."

Mrs. B. W. Tinklebaugh
Albuquerque, N. Mex.

One Way of Serving

"The main reason we bought so many of the books was because we thought the choices made by the judges were so well rounded and well fitted to the average layman's needs. We have a large number of friends who come to the house and we feel that this is one way of serving the Lord by loaning them books which they discovered in our library from the Sword Book Club."

Victor Iverson
Snohomish, Wash.



R. A. Hepner



V. Iverson

A Worthwhile Endeavor

"I rejoice at the opportunity to salute you on the sixth anniversary of the Sword Book Club. This is one of the most worthwhile Christian endeavors I know anything about. The keen sense of selectivity manifested by your judges is in keeping with the highest traditions of Christian literature. It fills a very great need, what would otherwise be a vacuum, for the busy preacher."

Rev. John W. Sullivan
Full Gospel Tabernacle
Middletown, Ohio

Each One A Blessing

"I have been a member of the Sword Book Club since its beginning six years ago and want to thank God for the great blessing it has meant to my life. I can truthfully say that I have received over 100 books from the Book Club, and each one has been a blessing to my life."

Rev. Ed. F. Vallowe
Second Baptist Church
Macon, Ga.

To Better Understand

"Your books have helped me to better understand the Scriptures and have helped me to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior."

Walter Hill
Turrell, Ark.

Never Disappointed

"My book club books have been a real blessing to me and to my family and household. In connection with family devotions we have been reading the book on Prayer. Not one of the books has disappointed us."

Mrs. Frank A. Kroeze
Minneapolis 8, Minn.



E. F. Vallowe



H. Parton

Sweetest Blessings

"When I first joined the Sword Book Club I knew very little about how to rightly divide the Word of God. Although I had been a Sunday school teacher for several years and an active worker in the church, how I do thank God for the great help the Club has given me in teaching the Word of God. Some of the sweetest blessings which have come to me as a Christian have come through the testimony of friends with whom I have shared the books of my Sword Book Club library."

Hoke Parton
Chattanooga, Tenn.

A Blessing to Me

"I have never enjoyed the inspiration and the blessings that have been my privilege to enjoy since I became a member of the Sword Book Club. I have only missed a very few in these years. I can say many of them have been a great inspiration and a blessing to me."

A. C. Mead
Wakita, Okla.

A Fine Piece of Work

"Congratulations on your sixth birthday. You are certainly doing a fine piece of work; and I am glad to feel that I have been a member of the Club at least half that time. It often seems to me that the men who do all your review work must be a self-sacrificing group."

Dr. H. E. McClenahan
Youngstown 7, Ohio

Better Soul Winners

"Words fail to express the great joy I have had in being a Sword Book Club member for the past five years. All your selections have been wonderful books and the ones I have selected for my library have not collected any dust. They have enriched my spiritual life, increased my faith toward God,

(Continued on page 12)

Cure For Troubled Hearts

By the Editor

Dr. John A. Held, editor *Gulf Coast Baptist* of Houston has been a widely-used man of God. His daughter was in university with me and I have held in honor this good and greatly useful man.

Therefore, I was deeply moved to see the following editorial by Dr. Held in the *Gulf Coast Baptist* for February 1:

"GOD'S CURE FOR ANXIOUS CARE"

"Until recently this editor has experienced mental agony and sleepless nights for many months. It seemed that everything went wrong. We were inclined to hesitate on almost everything. Our faith became weak and our courage was at the lowest level. Then it was we received a book for review from John R. Rice, the title: *God's Cure for Anxious Care*. We reviewed it and were impressed in the hurried reading of it. Nevertheless we felt that it was a book worth reading again. When we were under the greatest strain and did not know which way to turn, we picked up the book again and this time read it with great care. We were especially impressed with the correctness and Scripturalness. Looking up every reference we read each word carefully—not because we had never read the words before but because in our stress we came to see what we had not seen before, namely, that God really made certain promises and with such clarity and assurance that it is amazing why anyone should not accept these promises for their full worth. Then came the answer with freshness and such definiteness that we once again accepted those precious words with the assurance of certainty; and found a new joy. Since then we have had much joy and blessed satisfaction by leaning on these promises and resting our soul on what He has said. The trouble is that many of our prayers are not honest to God. Many of us have the audacity to ask for our Heavenly Father to hand out blessings that we do not deserve."

"Somewhere we read the story recently about the great sorrow and heart-broken condition of a great business man. One evening he was so greatly distressed that he cried out, more to himself, rather than to the family in the room: 'I have suffered and endured great mental strain and now I have lost everything.' When the daughter, evidently sympathizing with her father and taking

things literally, said: 'Daddy, you have me and mommy yet.' What a rebuke! The other day I turned once again to the Psalms and for the thousandth time read: *THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD, I SHALL NOT WANT*, and I said to myself, 'Have I forgotten this blessed word?'

"But again John Rice writes a wise word and one that has tremendous meaning when he says: 'This matter of God's presence with His people is not for the favored few, but for all. Every born-again child of God can know that God is with him and has promised ever to be with him, never to forsake him. On this matter we are not to go by our feelings. God is with you when you feel His presence. But He is also with you when you do not feel His presence. God is with you when your heart is happy and your faith is high. He is also with you when you are downcast and discouraged and unbelieving.' That is as fine a word as was ever uttered by the greatest saints both in the pulpit and out of it. Thank God for His unspeakable gift! Thank God for His unfailing promises! Thank God for His lifting power and guiding force in the hearts and lives of His people everywhere and at all times. Here it is: 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.' Do you believe that?"

Dear reader, are you harassed by burdens and sorrows and troubles? Dr. Held's kind testimony encourages me to believe that many others would find the book blessed. Many say it is the most beautiful book *Sword of the Lord* Publishers has ever published. There are nine chapters, 127 pages, beautifully cloth bound with pictured end-sheets and beautiful jacket. The book makes an ideal gift and we hope when you get a copy for yourself you will order one for a shut-in or some bereaved or tempted or troubled Christian. Price \$1.50. Order from your book dealer or *Sword of the Lord* Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.

Conservative Baptist Seminary

By Rev. Richard V. Clearwaters, Pastor
Fourth Baptist Church, Minneapolis

The Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary, 1500 East Tenth Avenue, Denver, Colorado, opened its doors on September 18, 1950, with forty students and faculty of seven headed by Dean William F. Kerr.

Dr. Kerr, formerly professor of theology at the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Chicago, was brought to Denver to head the new school which serves nearly 1,500 churches across the northern area of the United States.

The members of the first class enrolled have come from thirteen different states and one foreign country and represent twenty-three different universities, colleges, seminaries and Bible schools.

Faculty members, besides Dr. Kerr, include Donald Walter Burdick, associate professor of New Testament; Raymond William McLaughlin, associate professor of homiletics and speech; Joseph James Edwards, instructor in Old Testament; Jack Wesley Fall, instructor in New Testament Greek; John Van Kommer, instructor in church history and Douglas Vernon Birk, director of admissions and registrar.

The Seminary, which is a graduate school of theology, is located in the great cultural, educational and recreational center of the Middle West. It is in close contact with such educational institutions as Denver University, University of Colorado and Rockmont College. The majestic Rockies lie within a thirty-minute drive offering a variety of recreational attractions.

The Seminary is housed in the former Bonfil's mansion which ad-

joins Cheesman Park, the highest point in the city with vast panorama of mountains. To convert the mansion with its four floors and 30,000 square feet of floor space to seminary uses, the former theater was made into a library, the lounge into a chapel, bedrooms into classrooms and studies for the faculty. Rooms for single students and two faculty apartments were also provided, together with kitchen and dining facilities for the school. Of interest to students are the swimming pool, the recreational room and the tennis courts. The building is located on eleven lots which gives opportunity for expansion.

Inquiries are coming in constantly from consecrated young people who are devoting themselves to full time Christian service. Decisions are being made to train here because of the high standards of scholarship and spirituality. Individuals and churches are accepting this work as a missionary challenge and are contributing financially. This new institution offers to every Bible-believing Christ-honoring Christian steward an opportunity to make worthy investment in equipping youth for vital Christian service and the proclamation of the Gospel to a world for which Christ died.

Does God Blot Out A Christian's Salvation?

Questions on the Eternal Security of a Believer Answered

By the Editor

Dear Brother F—:

I have your letter, and the eight-page leaflet called "Infallible Proof Concerning the Doctrine of Eternal Security" by Wilbur J. Powell. You say, "I have read your booklet *Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?* I have also read this one enclosed, BOTH quoting Scripture. Kindly enlighten me and eliminate those question marks?????" Well, you need to pray for a discerning spirit, and then take the Bible at face value.

I have gone over this little leaflet of so-called "Infallible Proof," and find it very shallow and carelessly written. Many honest, good people believe that a saved person, a born-again child of God can be lost. They quote Scriptures, too. But then you must remember that so do Mormons, Catholics, Christian Scientists, Jehovah's Witnesses and every false cult. So you need to check up and see whether the Scriptures are properly used and whether they say what Mr. Powell says they say. I'll go over the Scriptures mentioned.

1. "Whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:15).

However, the writer is wrong in saying "thus showing that the book will be examined on that awful day for the final record of the saved." That judgment described in Revelation 20 is not a judgment of saved people at all. In fact, in the beginning of the chapter we are plainly told, "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection. On such the second death hath no power." The saved are in the first resurrection. Then, that same chapter tells how these saved who are raised up in the first resurrection will reign with Christ a thousand years. Then after the thousand years are over the second resurrection will

take place and lost people will come out of Hell and the bodies out of the sea and the graves and be judged. Everybody in the second resurrection, and judged at that last judgment on their works will go to Hell. People ought to read the Bible enough to know that nobody is saved by his works. Every person who comes to judgment on the basis of his works, according to God's records, will go to Hell, of course. There is not even a hint in the twentieth chapter of Revelation that a single person who comes to that last judgment will go to Heaven. This is not a judgment of the saved but of the lost.

2. "And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin—; and if not, blot me; I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written. And the Lord said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book." (Exod. 32:31-33).

The friend who is trying to prove that God does not save people with everlasting salvation by His mercy, but only temporarily and as long as they deserve it, here thinks that he has proven that one

(Continued on page 12)

Miracle Of The Pumpkin Pie

Some months ago the editor received a letter very sweet and precious to him which he wants to share with readers of *The Sword of the Lord*. Jesus said to us, "Cast not your pearls before swine"; so if there is a reader who does not believe that God today cares for us as much as ever and that He can and sometimes does miraculously overrule the laws of nature in behalf of His loving and trusting children, then I advise you not to read any further. Here is a testimony that I regard as holy ground, and I believe we might well spiritually take the shoes off our feet as we walk here.

I do not explain it. But that does not make me doubt it. I know that the unchanging God has done for me, in answer to prayer, many things that cannot be explained by human reason. I believe that the Saviour who changed the water into wine to help an embarrassed host at Cana and had compassion on the five thousand and fed them with five little barley loaves and two small fishes would answer a believing heart-cry with the same kind of compassion today. Then read this tender story if you have a child-like heart.

October 20, 1950

Dear Friends in Christ:

Received your kind letter of 13th inst., so thought I had better write and let you know that God was very gracious and kind in giving me two wonderful, loving, faithful and devoted wives. Their memories are blessed. My dear second wife was a Zarephath widow. If anyone had said that I was going to meet my second wife, I would not have believed them. She was from one of the large worldly churches; and the widow of Zarephath was of the country of Zidon. So you see God is using still poor, weak things such as me to snatch souls from the burning.

But I was not worthy. She was another dear, good, loving, faithful, devoted wife. Oh, our marriage was a honeymoon until she died. But she never felt her need of Jesus for five and a half years, and yet God the Holy Spirit helped me to live until one day she said to me, "Irvine, do you think I have gone over the deadline?" Of course I told her she had not or she would not be exercised about it. Then she started seeking after God until she got the witness.

Then she took creeping paralysis. I nursed her through that, and after nearly three years I saw her pass over. . . .

I have a lot to be thankful for. I am seventy November 10, but I feel better physically than I have for forty years.

After my wife died, I got down on my knees and looked up into Heaven and told my Father, "Thou art too wise to err, and too good to be unkind; so I am going to bury my sorrow in more love and devotion to Thee." And do you know, He took those terrible pangs of sorrow from my heart, so that I did not grieve as so many do; but how I miss her!

I am going to relate to you the one thing that touched her heart and started her to see her need of Jesus.

On a morning in 1935, in the spring, I went out to the garden to clean off the land so as to start to dig the garden. I hoed some weeds off. I was going to strike one place with the hoe, but was restrained. There was a Baranna (?) pie pumpkin plant starting. I was so strongly restrained that I put three little stakes in the ground and put some string around so that I would not dig it up.

Well, that plant grew and grew, and I had to train it so as not to let it grow all over the garden. That summer there was an awful lot of pumpkins on it. When I took them in, in the fall, Gracie made pumpkin pie, and pumpkin pie, and more pies until she had them all used but one. It was the best one. She used the ones that had started to spoil first. But one day she went upstairs and this one had a spot on it. So she took it and cooked it and put it out in the back shed to freeze and keep until later.

We forgot all about it. It was winter now. Then it turned warm. She had put it in her kettle which she made doughnuts in, and she could not find her kettle. She had forgotten that she had put the pumpkin in it. So one day I was going out in the shed and I happened to look up and there was her kettle. I called to her and said, "I have found your kettle, Gracie."

It was hanging up on one of the rafters of the shed on a nail. So I took it to her and she lifted the lid and there was the pumpkin all rotten, with great big white fuzzy mouldy whiskers, I called them. Then she felt condemned for wasting all that pumpkin. There were almost tears in her eyes. (I never told you that she was an American. She was born in Franklin, Vermont. She was what she called herself—Vermont Dutch. Her parents were Dutch and you know they are very frugal and saving. They think it is a sin to let things go to waste.)

Well, Gracie was feeling so badly, I said, "Gracie, come over here and sit on my lap." I said, "Now, Gracie, you did not do that wilfully: you forgot all about it and so did I." (Mark you, this was in the throes of that terrible depression.)

Well, beloved, the thought flashed into my mind, God understands. He is not condemning you for that. That is one of our infirmities, and so I quoted that verse in Hebrew 4:15, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities;" etc.

Then again there flashed across my mind this: I said, "Gracie, I

want you to take that pumpkin"—mark you, it was black under that skum, and rotten; it had turned warm—"Now dear, you put that pumpkin in your pie shells with your milk, sugar, spices, just as if it were perfectly good; put it in the oven and then we will get down on our knees and tell God all about it and confess that we did not do it wilfully. And please, in Jesus' name, make it as good as if it had not spoiled."

We got up and left them there—there were three pies. Gracie was afraid to look in the oven. And I will have to confess I was, too. But she looked and saw those lovely golden-yellow pies! She took them out, set them on the table. Just then our pastor came in. I said, "Would you take a piece of pumpkin pie?"

He said, "I have never yet refused pumpkin." So he ate it.

I said, "Would you care for another piece?"

"Brother," he says, "that surely tastes like another piece!"

Then dear Gracie sat down at the table, laid her head on her arms and there cried and wept at the miracle God had worked.

Beloved, that was the first miracle Gracie had ever seen, and she said, "Does God bother with such small things as that?" I said, "Gracie dear, God has counted every one of the hairs in your head." And it was after that that dear Gracie began to feel her need of Jesus. She said, "Why did not my preacher teach things like that?" I said, "Gracie, you have to be in the Father's family to believe God will do for you what you cannot do for yourself."

So you see, Jesus still works miracles. Glory to Jesus!

I. W. BOLSBY

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Six Years of Blessing from Books

(Continued from page 9)

and deepened my love for my precious Lord, as well as helping me to be a better soul winner."

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Hicks
Dearborn, Mich.

Draws Me Closer

"I am happy to be a member of the Sword Book Club for almost six years. The books have been the means of drawing me closer to my precious Lord, and as I loan them to friends I know their own lives have been greatly enriched. I live in a small community where there are no Bible conferences, no well-known speakers we can hear, so through the means of the printed page they come right into my home."

Mrs. Charles Wildermuth
School Haven, Pa.



I. Stewart

J. W. McDowell

Just What I Needed

"I am a Baptist minister... having little time for real Bible study. I have found the books recommended by Sword Book Club judges to be just what I needed, true to the Bible, sound in the faith, written by deep spiritual men, with lots of usable material for my sermons."

Rev. Inman Stewart
Thomasville, N. C.

An Increasing Heat

"This service has stirred the fires of evangelism in my soul as nothing else has done. It has given me material for evangelistic preaching. It has caused the fires of evangelism to burn with an increasing heat in my own heart and ministry. I thank God for what I have received from this service. I have not received at any time a book that I was disappointed in. I can't say that of many of the highly advertised books I have bought. The people who select these books seem to know a good book when they read it."

Rev. W. S. Allen
First Baptist Church
Pass Christian, Miss.

More for Missions

"I thank the Lord that I've had the privilege of being a charter member of the Sword Book Club, furnishing me with the best reading material anywhere... I've never been the same since I read *Goforth of China*. I love missions now and others have expressed themselves the same way. That book and *How I Know God Answers Prayer* were the first books out newly-organized missionary society (now six years old) studied. Since then our church has done more for missions and just recently the church is tithing the income for missions."

Mrs. Paul Hunt
Dale, Ill.

Enabled to Grasp

"As Assistant Chief of Police for the giant General Electric here in Schenectady I have many times had the precious privilege of leading my own men to the Lord Jesus. Of course the Bible has first place for study and reading in my life, but I can truthfully say that through reading your books

month after month, from prophecy to history, from missionary to homiletics, culminating in that superb selection for last month, *The Life and Times of Martin Luther*, I have been really enabled to grasp Bible truths and may I also say understand the Bible a little better."

Joseph W. McDowell
Schenectady, N. Y.

Two things appear to me to make the Sword Book Club unique.

A Great Panel of Judges

The selections of the Book Club are not made in a haphazard manner. Throughout the years the original manner of selection has proven to be most satisfactory.

Here's how it is done. Through special arrangements with the leading Christian publishing houses in America, the Book Club is either advised of forthcoming books or advance copies are made available.

These books are then carefully examined in Wheaton by Dr. Rice and his associates to see whether they meet the Club's high standards (no book is considered for selection unless it is readable, meets exacting literary requirements, is of high moral character and thoroughly dependable when tested by the Scriptures). When a book meets the exacting standards, a copy is sent to each of the judges who examines it carefully and critically and compares its merits with those of the other books submitted each month.

After such careful, painstaking examination each judge makes his report to the club directors, who then tabulate the results with great care. The book with the highest rating becomes the main selection for the month and the next one or two are recommended as alternates. At no time are "strings" pulled to influence the judges' decision—even Dr. Rice's own books have to go through this same procedure. The extreme care taken to pre-select Book Club recommendations assures members that they will get "the best Christian book each month selected by outstanding Christian leaders."

And what leaders they are! Just look at this list of Christian leaders who recommend Sword Book Club selections for members. Consider their great and varied experience. They are among the finest and best-equipped men in America for this task. Most

"Christ For Montana"

Dr. Horace F. Dean, president of Christ for America revival organization, has on at this time a special effort to evangelize Montana. Montana is next to the largest state in America, more than twice as large as Pennsylvania, and yet the total population is less than that of the city of Milwaukee! A writer in *Holiday Magazine* (Sept., 1950) says that for the most part "the Montanan has escaped the evangelical religion." Usually the churches are small and poorly supported. Many pastors have to work at secular work for a livelihood. Scores of small towns and communities have no gospel-preaching church.

Dr. Horace Dean writes:

"Christ for America is determined to do something about this condition in Montana, and God has marvelously blessed our work which is now well under way to evangelize every part of this great state. During my recent trip I met at least 75 faithful pastors, and in addition, Child Evangelism and Bible Club Workers, some Youth for Christ leaders, and probably several thousand truly born-again Christians. Today we have more than 135 pastors linked in a great fellowship, designated as Christ for Montana, the objective of which is to unitedly, prayerfully evangelize the state. We now have more than 100 homes which have

pledged to hold a weekly cottage prayer meeting, and this number is growing. A state-wide Committee is being formed to consist of approximately 100 pastors and laymen. More than 50 united evangelistic campaigns are being planned. A splendid group of Christ for America Associated Evangelists will devote much of 1951 to this program of soul winning. Included in the group is Dr. Paul W. Rood of Glendale, California; Dr. John E. Zoller of Shelby, Michigan; the Krueger and Dence Evangelistic Team of Elmira, New York; the Piper Brothers of Greenville, South Carolina; Dr. A. O. Carlson of Minneapolis, Evangelist Harold Adams of Oakland, California, with his musical family; and Evangelist Lou Stewart of Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. In addition, a number of outstanding musicians will participate in these campaigns. Among these will be Professor and Mrs. Kenneth Wells, formerly faculty members of the Chicago Evangelistic Institute. Another team participating in this crusade will be Evangelists Trim and Bell, two splendid Bob Jones University graduates, who already have held several campaigns in Montana, with great blessing. There will be others associated in the movement. City-wide campaigns have already been scheduled for a number of the larger centers, including Missoula, Cutbank, Anaconda, Helena, Billings, Wolf Point, Roundup, Glendive and Miles City. Tentative plans are going forward in scores of other communities. Already five or six very fruitful united campaigns have been held under the leadership of Dr. Carlson, Dr. Zoller, Dr. Clifford Lewis, and hundreds have turned to the Lord in these campaigns. Nine pastors and congregations are working together in blessed unity at Missoula, in preparation for the coming Christ for Missoula campaign which will be held in the large High School Auditorium there during July. Many prayer groups have been formed here, and at least one all-night prayer meeting held, and the spirit of revival is manifest in all these churches. This is a new thing in Montana. A similar awakening is going on in Billings, also in Hardin, and in other areas. Two five-day Evangelistic Conferences will be held during June to stimulate and accelerate this movement for revival and evangelism. The first of these will be centered at Sidney, near the North Dakota line. The dates for this Eastern Conference will be June 16 - 20, and a similar Conference is planned for Missoula, June 23-27."

Dr. Dean says, "Any desiring to have fellowship through gifts may forward these to Christ for Montana, 542 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 5, Illinois. Every dollar earmarked for this program of soul winning will be faithfully used in Montana."

Dr. HENRY HEPBURN, minister emeritus Buena Memorial Presbyterian Church, Chicago, Ill.

Dr. JOHN L. HILL, former book editor for Southern Baptists, now promotion director for Ridgecrest and Glorietta Summer Assemblies, Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. BOB JONES, Jr., president Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C.

Dr. ROBERT G. LEE, president Southern Baptist Convention and pastor Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis, Tenn.

Dr. T. ROLAND PHILIPS, pastor Arlington Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Md.

Dr. JOHN R. RICE, evangelist, author, editor *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*, Wheaton, Ill.

WILLIAM H. RICE, widely-used evangelist, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Dr. W. A. CRISWELL pastor First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, is currently serving as a guest judge during the temporary absence of Evangelist William H. Rice who is holding meetings in Africa.

A Simple Membership Plan

Not only does the Sword Book Club offer the services of a distinguished panel of judges; it also offers the simplest membership plan.

Suppose you decide that you ought to be a member. How do you go about it?

There is nothing hard about joining the Sword Book Club.

You join the Book Club by signing a coupon—there's one on page three—and purchasing only one book.

You get a free book immediately. In addition you will receive an additional free book with every fourth Book Club selection (or alternate) you purchase. The only requirement is that you accept at least four Book Club selections (or alternates) in the next twelve months. In the Sword Book Club it is your privilege to buy only the books you choose to have.

To help you make your choice you will receive, absolutely free each month, the *Sword Book Club News*. This publication contains reviews, comments and evaluations by the gifted panel of eminent judges who select the books recommended by the Sword Book Club.

Any month you want the judges' main selection you do nothing and the books come automatically. If, however, you prefer an alternate—or no book at all—just indicate your desire on the Substitution-Rejection Blank which always arrives in sufficient time. You never have to buy a book you do not want.

Membership in the Sword Book Club will save you money (as little as \$6.00 worth of books a year will keep your membership in force and earn you a free book!). But, best of all, it will

pledged to hold a weekly cottage prayer meeting, and this number is growing. A state-wide Committee is being formed to consist of approximately 100 pastors and laymen. More than 50 united evangelistic campaigns are being planned. A splendid group of Christ for America Associated Evangelists will devote much of 1951 to this program of soul winning. Included in the group is Dr. Paul W. Rood of Glendale, California; Dr. John E. Zoller of Shelby, Michigan; the Krueger and Dence Evangelistic Team of Elmira, New York; the Piper Brothers of Greenville, South Carolina; Dr. A. O. Carlson of Minneapolis, Evangelist Harold Adams of Oakland, California, with his musical family; and Evangelist Lou Stewart of Wellsboro, Pennsylvania. In addition, a number of outstanding musicians will participate in these campaigns. Among these will be Professor and Mrs. Kenneth Wells, formerly faculty members of the Chicago Evangelistic Institute. Another team participating in this crusade will be Evangelists Trim and Bell, two splendid Bob Jones University graduates, who already have held several campaigns in Montana, with great blessing. There will be others associated in the movement. City-wide campaigns have already been scheduled for a number of the larger centers, including Missoula, Cutbank, Anaconda, Helena, Billings, Wolf Point, Roundup, Glendive and Miles City. Tentative plans are going forward in scores of other communities. Already five or six very fruitful united campaigns have been held under the leadership of Dr. Carlson, Dr. Zoller, Dr. Clifford Lewis, and hundreds have turned to the Lord in these campaigns. Nine pastors and congregations are working together in blessed unity at Missoula, in preparation for the coming Christ for Missoula campaign which will be held in the large High School Auditorium there during July. Many prayer groups have been formed here, and at least one all-night prayer meeting held, and the spirit of revival is manifest in all these churches. This is a new thing in Montana. A similar awakening is going on in Billings, also in Hardin, and in other areas. Two five-day Evangelistic Conferences will be held during June to stimulate and accelerate this movement for revival and evangelism. The first of these will be centered at Sidney, near the North Dakota line. The dates for this Eastern Conference will be June 16 - 20, and a similar Conference is planned for Missoula, June 23-27."

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Bible Questions Answered

By the Editor

Dear Miss D—:

I was so glad to hear that you were saved and I will try to answer your questions in your letter of January 15.

1. You ask, "Can the Spirit of God leave a person here now in the world?"

The Holy Spirit can leave a lost sinner, who has never trusted Christ as Saviour. God is under no obligation to keep on running after a man who does not want to be saved, one who has been fully enlightened and convicted, and still does not want Jesus and does not want to be saved. Jesus in Matthew 12:31, 32 plainly says that there is one sin that has no forgiveness. When a sinner, with whom the Spirit of God is striving deliberately and intentionally insults the Holy Spirit by rejecting Christ definitely once and for all, the Holy Spirit then may leave that man and he can never be forgiven. The same thing is taught in Hebrews 6:4-6. Remember that this is only a lost man, convicted and enlightened but not saved. A saved person cannot commit the unpardonable sin.

The Holy Spirit comes into the Christian's body when he is saved and the body of a Christian is the temple of the Holy Ghost. A Christian's sins are already forgiven, already blotted out, and laid on Jesus and paid for in Christ's sacrifice on the cross. So then, Romans 4:7,8 describes a saved man, "Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will

not impute sin." The Holy Spirit never leaves a saved person and a saved person cannot commit the unpardonable sin.

2. You ask, "What condition would a sinner have to meet in order for the Spirit to stop striving with him?"

A lost sinner, who after great enlightenment, and deep conviction fully realizing that he ought to take Christ as Saviour and with the Spirit of God pressing upon him to decide now, might so resist the Spirit and insult the Spirit of God, by definitely saying no, that the Spirit of God would cease striving with him. Cursing is not the unpardonable sin but only a certain wicked heart attitude toward the Holy Spirit who strives with a sinner seeking to get him saved. Every man who rejects Christ is in danger. One who has great enlightenment and conviction is doubly in danger.

3. You ask, "How can a person know that the Spirit has left him?"

I do not know that the lost person will know that the Spirit of God has left him or not. He will be unconcerned. He will not be convicted. He will not want to be saved.

However, if a lost sinner wants

We Praise Him!

THE MESSAGE "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" printed elsewhere in this issue is being widely distributed and greatly used.

The last printing brought the following statistics to light. Over 4,850,000 copies have been printed in English up to January 1, 1951, with over 4,396 recorded decisions for Christ. The Japanese edition has been duplicated 729,000 times with over 2,500 reported conversions.

This tract has also been published in Armenian, Spanish, German and Tamil.

to be saved, then he can know he has not committed the unpardonable sin. Anybody who wants to be saved can be saved as the Scriptures plainly say. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13). Again Revelation 22:17 says, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." The man who will can be saved. The man who won't, cannot be saved. The idea that people want to be saved and beg God to save them, but that He will not do it is utterly contrary to the teaching of the Bible.

Many people say to me, "I think I have committed the unpardonable sin." They tell how they've longed to be saved and they can't get the feeling they want. To all such people I plainly say that they have not committed the unpardonable sin. The very fact that one wants to be saved is proof enough

that he could be saved. And foolishly enough, many of these who think they have committed the unpardonable sin are saved people who have definitely trusted Christ and have been born again but by the teaching of holiness people or others who stress emotion, they have come to the conclusion that they have lost their salvation, and that they cannot be saved. Anybody who is basing the assurance of salvation on his feelings may be misled on this question. Salvation is by faith, not by feeling. One can know he is saved because of the plain promises of God in the Bible and every Christian ought to believe what God has said, that one who has come to Christ was not turned down, one who called on Christ for salvation received it, one who believed in Christ for everlasting life got it. That is the clear teaching of the Bible.

4. You ask, "Do you think people will have to give account for the evil thoughts they have?"

Yes. Most sins are in the thoughts. God forbids lust and counts it equal to adultery (Matt. 5:27, 28). God forbids covetousness, and that is in the thoughts. The great command is, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart..." and that is a matter of the thoughts. In Isaiah 55:7 God commands the unrighteous man to forsake his thoughts. In Matthew 15:19 Jesus says that evil thoughts proceed out of the heart, and so would be judged.

However, it is important to note, that when God speaks of thought as a sin, He means the intention of the heart. For example, a man

might think about sex matters and it would not be a sin necessarily. But if one deliberately wants that which is not right, and chooses to seek to have that which is wrong, then that would be a sin certainly. Temptation is not necessarily a sin as long as one does not consent to it, does not seek it. It is the honest intention of the heart which God regards. If one intends to do wrong that is the same as doing wrong. If one does not intend to do wrong, a thought is not necessarily evil. Of course we should guard our hearts and thoughts very carefully to keep from temptation. We would be guilty if we encouraged temptation or did not resist it.

In the Saviour's name, yours,
JOHN R. RICE

Suggestion

(Continued from page 7)

pages, eight chapters, giftbound, fifty cents. Take it to some brokenhearted, bereaved one, some unsaved shut-in and pray while it helps you to win them to Christ.

Every pastor ought to keep a packet of my booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" or something of the kind in the pocket of his car, and on his desk so he can hand them to people wherever he goes who might need them. Dear preacher, if you get out of your pulpit and away from your heavy burdens as administrative head of your congregation, and win some soul to Christ, I would be glad to hear from you.

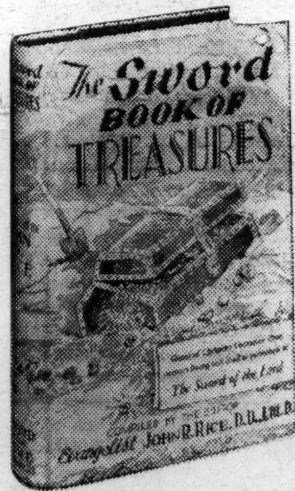
JOHN R. RICE

We suggest these Christ-honoring Sword books

For your own reading or as lasting gifts for your choice friends

This Book has TREASURES

You cannot afford to miss!



Here it is—a book for you who have already been greatly stirred through these messages first printed in THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Here is your book—you who are looking for beautifully-written, deeply-moving Christian literature. Here is your book—you who through the years have read and collected the classics in Christian literature.

The Sword Book of Treasures

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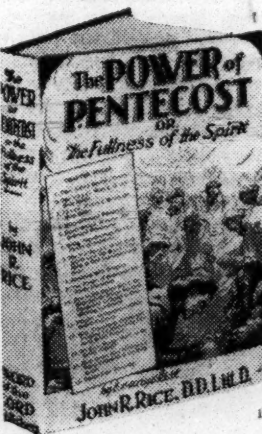
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A Christian's Salvation

(Continued from page 9)

who is written in the book of life and who is saved can have his name blotted out. Actually that is not the issue at all. Moses and God were not talking about the book of life but about prophecies and plans for the nation Israel. This Scripture is given just after Moses came down off of Mount Sinai and found the people of Israel dancing naked, around the golden calf. In the same chapter, in Exodus 32:9, 10, we find what God is talking about. "And the Lord said unto Moses, I have seen this people... Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation." God is not talking about blotting out saved people from the book of life. He is talking about killing off these rebellious Jews and not using them to establish a nation in Palestine. Instead He says He will take Moses and his family and make a nation of them.

Later God did blot out of His plans for a national Israel all these men, twenty years old and upward, letting them die in the wilderness before He took the people into Palestine, and their children inherited the land in their stead.

Does any sensible reader believe that everybody in the nation Israel was converted, saved, and so had his name written in the book of life for eternal salvation? And does anybody believe that Moses wanted to go to Hell, too, if these Jews did? No, that is not what the Bible says and it is not what it means and it is only shallow thinking and careless study of the Word of God that would use a Scripture out of its connection, to try to prove what it does not say, like this.

3. "And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book" (Rev. 22:19).

Our friend quotes this Scripture as if it taught that God would take away a saved person's salvation. But that is not what it says nor what it means.

He forgets that many times in the Bible we are told that God provided salvation for everybody. Everybody had a part in Christ's atoning death. Everybody has room provided for him in Heaven, if he will but come to Christ and be saved.

First Timothy 4:10 speaks of "the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." Christ is the Saviour of all men, though the salvation does not take effect except with those who believe.

First John 2:2 tells us, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." Every man's sins have been paid for. Heaven has been provided for every man. A part in the book of life is provided and offered to every man.

Revelation 22:17, just two verses above the one we are discussing, says, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." And with this in mind, that salvation is provided for everybody. The Lord

says that those who take away from the Word of God, those who do not believe the Bible, therefore miss the chance for Heaven. The part in the holy city that was meant for them is taken from them. The place in the book of life which was meant for them is taken from them.

You see one who does not believe the Bible cannot trust the Christ of the Bible with saving faith. If a lost sinner wants his part in the book of life and in the heavenly Jerusalem, he must believe in the Christ of the Bible and take Him as Saviour. Revelation 22:17 does not teach that a saved person loses salvation.

In the tract you sent me the author misspells Calvinism making it Calvinism. He says Dr. Joseph A. Seiss is "doubtless the greatest theologian since the apostles" but very few would agree.

Mr. Powell ignores the clear teaching of the Bible that Christians are born again, are partakers of the divine nature, have their sins blotted out, that they have everlasting life, that they will never come into condemnation, that they are justified, and that Christ, our High Priest, ever intercedes for them. Such a great doctrine deserves more careful study than that!

You ought to consider that if a person keeps himself saved by his good works, then salvation is by works instead of by grace. That is the gospel which the Roman Catholic Church and the lodges and so-called moral men all teach. But it is not the doctrine of the Bible. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Eph. 2:8, 9).

I suggest that you read very carefully again my booklet, *Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?* and that you get the additional pamphlet, (24 large pages) on *Eight Gospel Absurdities If a Born-Again Soul Ever Loses Salvation*. I believe that you will find the proof there deals fairly with the Bible and answers questions and proves that God does the saving and God must do the keeping, by His grace.

Sincerely yours, your brother in Christ,

JOHN R. RICE

Those interested in a study of what the Bible teaches about the security of a believer in Christ and about everlasting salvation are invited to send for the two pamphlets mentioned above, *Can a Saved Person Ever Be Lost?* and *Eight Gospel Absurdities If a Born-Again Soul Ever Loses Salvation*. Send 15c each, 30c for the two. Better yet, order a number for your friends from The Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois.

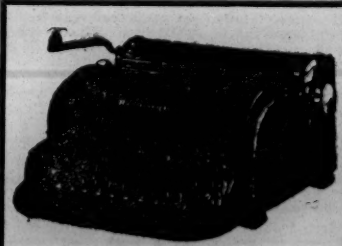


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